

Groton Daily Independent

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Chicken Soup
for the Soul

“AMONG THE THINGS YOU
CAN GIVE AND STILL KEEP
ARE YOUR WORD, A SMILE,
AND A GRATEFUL HEART.”

-ZIG ZIGLAR

CLOSED: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Swimming Pool Hours

Open Swim Daily: 1 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.

Fun Night is every Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.

Adult Water Aerobics: Monday through Thursday: 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 pm

Adult Lap Swim: Monday through Friday: 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.; Monday through Thursday: 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.; Friday-Sunday: 4:50 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Swimming Lessons: First Session: June 17-27

Saturday, June 29

1:00 p.m.: Junior Teeners at Lake Norden, (DH)
U10 Pee Wees Tourney in Groton

Sunday, June 30

2:00 p.m.: Legion hosts Lake Norden, (DH)
U12 Midgets host Groton Tourney
6:00 p.m.: Locke Electric Amateurs vs. Groton 2 Amateurs (game to start after Legion (DH))

Monday, July 1

5:30 p.m.: Junior Legion hosts Milbank, (DH)
6:00 p.m.: Junior Teeners at Redfield, (DH)
6:00 p.m.: U12 Midgets host Britton, (DH)
6:00 p.m.: U10 Pee Wees host Britton, (DH) (R,W)
6:00 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees at Britton, (DH)s (R,B)
Softball at Sisseton, (DH)s (U10 at 6 p.m., U12 at 6 p.m.)

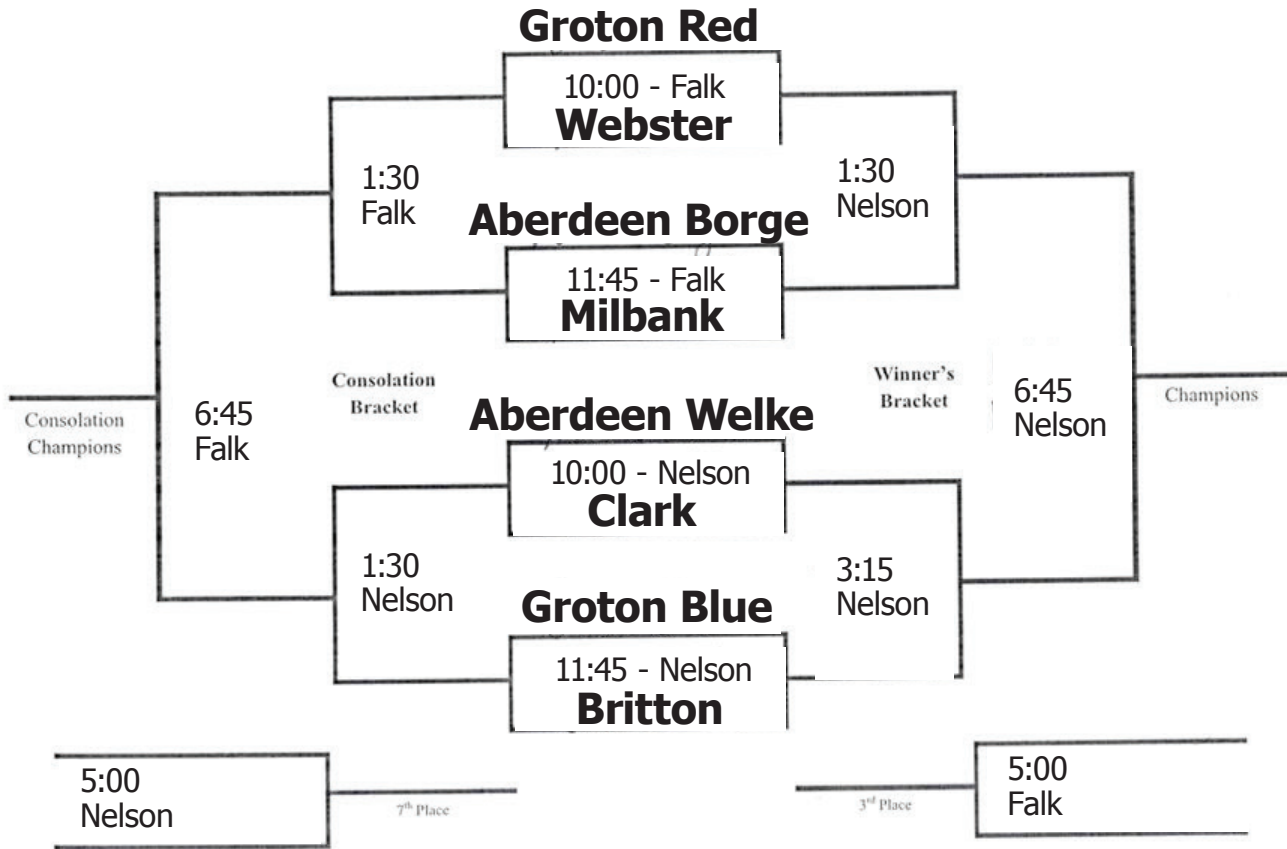
Tuesday, July 2

6:00 p.m.: Junior Legion at Claremont, (DH)
6:00 p.m.: Junior Teeners at Selby, (DH)

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2019 Groton u10 Tournament Bracket June 29th



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**AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BROWN COUNTY COMMISSION
COMMISSIONER'S CHAMBERS, COURTHOUSE ANNEX
25 MARKET STREET, ABERDEEN SD**

**TUESDAY
JULY 2, 2019**

8:45a.m. - 8:55a.m. – Scott Amundson – Livestock Development Reinvestment Payment Program
8:55a.m. – 9:10a.m. – Scott Bader, Planning & Zoning Director – Department Update
9:10a.m. – 9:15a.m. – Discuss setting hearing date for adoption of Emergency Temporary Zoning Ordinance & Map & Subdivision Ordinance for 3-mile area

- Approve General Meeting Minutes from June 25, 2019
- Claims
- HR Report
- Fair Contracts
- Assessor Office Fee Schedule
- Authorize Chairman sign Weed & Pest Mosquito Control Grant
- Special Malt Beverage License
- Authorize Chairman sign Landfill DENR Grant payment request #1
- Fair promo ticket list
- Legal Assignments
- Leases

Any other matters to come before the Commission for discussion

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Groton Jr. Teeners 14U **15 - 5** Warner-Ipswich- Northwestern 13-14 Teeners 14U

📍 Away 🏆 League 📅 Thursday June 27, 2019

	1	2	3	4	5	6	R	H	E
GRTN	2	0	4	2	6	1	15	11	2
WRNR	0	2	1	0	2	0	5	3	5

BATTING

Groton Jr. Te	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB
A Marzahn (...)	1	2	0	0	2	0	0
J Bjerke (3B)	3	4	2	1	2	0	1
B Althoff (1B)	5	2	2	2	0	0	3
C Dunker (P)	3	2	1	1	1	0	3
T Larson (P)	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
K Hoover (SS)	4	2	2	2	1	1	1
A Johnson (...)	2	0	0	0	1	2	3
C Larson (C)	4	0	1	0	0	0	3
R Groebing...	4	0	2	1	0	0	2
J Lewandos...	2	1	1	0	2	1	1
C Simon (2B)	2	0	0	0	0	1	2
CR: L Tietz	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	31	15	11	7	9	5	8

2B: C Dunker, **TB:** J Bjerke 2, R Groebinghoff 2, C Dunker 2, K Hoover 2, B Althoff 2, J Lewandoski, C Larson, **CS:** J Lewandoski, **HBP:** A Johnson, **SB:** A Marzahn 2, J Bjerke 4, C Dunker 3, K Hoover 5, L Tietz 4, B Althoff 4, J Lewandoski 2, **LOB:** 8

Warner-Ipswi	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB
Z Wood (CF)	4	0	0	0	0	1	4
K Stahl (C)	2	2	1	0	1	1	0
A Remily (P...	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
C Neiber (...)	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
N Fischbac...	2	1	0	0	0	0	1
L Scepaniak...	2	0	0	0	0	1	1
L Jensen (LF)	2	1	1	2	1	0	1
S Nilsson (RF)	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
D Ward (2B)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
J Ortmeier (...)	2	0	0	0	1	1	2
H Williams	2	0	0	1	0	2	2
Totals	22	5	3	4	4	6	8

2B: K Stahl, **TB:** L Jensen, K Stahl 2, C Neiber, **CS:** Z Wood, **HBP:** H Williams, L Scepaniak, N Fischbach, D Ward 2, **SB:** Z Wood 2, N Fischbach 3, K Stahl 2, **LOB:** 8

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Groton Jr. Teeners 14U **15 - 0** Warner-Ipswich- Northwestern 13-14 Teeners 14U

📍 Away 🏆 League 📅 Thursday June 27, 2019

	1	2	3	R	H	E
GRTN	3	4	8	15	10	0
WRNR	0	0	0	0	0	1

BATTING

Groton Jr. Te	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB
A Marzahn (...)	2	2	1	0	1	0	0
J Lewando...	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
C Larson (SS)	3	3	3	2	0	0	0
J Bjerke (1B)	2	2	2	2	1	0	0
K Hoover (...)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C Dunker (C...)	1	1	1	0	2	0	0
R Groebing...	3	2	1	2	0	0	2
K Antonsen...	2	0	0	0	1	0	3
T Larson (3B)	1	1	0	0	2	0	1
A Johnson...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C Simon (RF...)	2	2	1	0	1	0	2
B Althoff (...)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
L Tietz (P)	3	1	1	2	0	0	1
Totals	19	15	10	8	8	0	3

Warner-Ipswi	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB
Z Baum	2	0	0	0	0	2	1
X Kadlec	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
C Kraft	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
T Gosch	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
G Lane	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cc	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
L Santema	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
H Williams	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
J Ortmeier (P)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	9	0	0	0	0	6	1

2B: J Bjerke, **TB:** A Marzahn, R Groebinghoff, J Bjerke 3, L Tietz, C Dunker, C Simon, C Larson 3, **CS:** J Bjerke, **SB:** T Larson 3, A Marzahn 4, R Groebinghoff 3, J Bjerke 2, K Antonsen, L Tietz 2, C Dunker 2, C Simon 4, J Lewandoski, C Larson 7, **LOB:** 3

HBP: J Ortmeier, **SB:** J Ortmeier, **LOB:** 1

The United States Capital



Freedom stands on top of the dome of the United States Capital, facing East where the sun never sets.

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Above: After the Capital Tour, everyone had to turn in their guest pass. Brenda Madsen puts her on Carly Wheeting's hand as a "high five." The passes were given by Sen. John Thune's office.

Below: The group gathers in the bright sun for a photo op in front of the Capital Building.





Statue of Freedom

The image on the left is a replica that can be found inside the Capital Building.

Statue of Freedom (model, 1854-1857; cast 1860-1862)

Artist: Thomas Crawford

Dimensions: 19.5 ft

Weight: 15,000 pounds

Location: Washington, D.C.

The Statue of Freedom, also known as Armed Freedom or simply Freedom, is a bronze statue designed by Thomas Crawford (1814-1857) that, since 1863, has crowned the dome of the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C. Originally named Freedom Triumphant in War and Peace, a U.S. government publication now states that the statue "is officially known as the Statue of Freedom". The statue depicts a female figure bearing a military helmet and holding a sheathed sword in her right hand and a laurel wreath and shield in her left.

- Wikipedia

Design

AMERICAN SCULPTOR Thomas Crawford was already working on other sculptures for the Capitol in his studio in Rome when he was chosen to design the figure to top the new Capitol dome. In his first version, Freedom wore a wreath of wheat and laurel. After he saw the drawing of the dome, Crawford created a second design with a liberty cap, the emblem of freed slaves in ancient Rome and a symbol of liberty during the American and French revolutions. Secretary of War Jefferson Davis objected to this symbol as "inappropriate to a people who were born free" and suggested a helmet. Crawford then made the final design.

The Casting of the Bronze

This original plaster model, shipped from Rome to the United States in five main sections, was used to make the mold for the final bronze that stands atop the Capitol. Clark Mills cast the statue in his foundry at the edge of the District of Columbia from 1860 to 1862. It was made by pressing the pieces into fine, moist sand to create a negative. After a core was formed, molten bronze was poured into a half-inch space to create the hollow figure. Fifteen thousand pounds of copper, 1,500 pounds of tin and 200 pounds of zinc were needed to cast the 191-foot statue.

One of Mills's most valued assistants was his highly skilled slave Philip Reid, whom he described as "an expert and admirable workman." Reid and the other slaves in Mills's foundry were paid only when they worked on Sundays. After he was emancipated in 1862, Reid assisted Mills during the moving and temporary placement of the bronze statue on the Capitol grounds.

Thomas Crawford sent photographs of his proposed designs from Rome to Washington. The headpiece evolved from a wreath to a liberty cap to the approved helmet topped with an eagle head and feathers, in homage to the American Indian.

PHOTO: COURTESY, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND ARCHIVES

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The bronze statue was cast by Clark Mills at his foundry on Blandburg Road, under the watchful eye of his slave Philip Reid, who was a free man when the statue was lifted to the dome.

PHOTO: COURTESY, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND ARCHIVES

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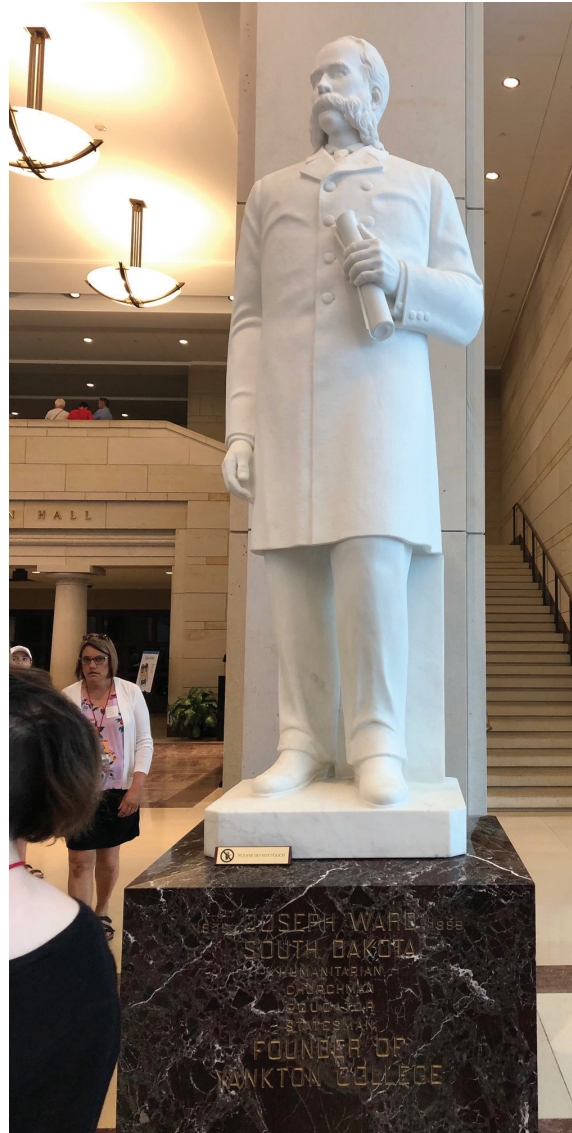
While you are given a guided tour of the Capital Building, there are several tours going on at the same time. Each group has their own set of headsets so they can listen to their tour guide.



These pillars support the rotunda and the dome of the US Capital.

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"What are the South Dakota statues currently on display at the U.S. Capitol?" They're William Henry Harrison Beadle (left photo) and Dr. Joseph Ward (top photo).

Mr. Beadle served as an educator at Madison State Normal School from 1889 to 1906, first serving as a professor and then as school President.

Dr. Ward started Yankton Academy, later handing it over to public control. It eventually became the earliest high school in Dakota.

The William H. H. Beadle statue is located in National Statuary Hall and the statue of Dr. Joseph Ward is located in the Capitol Visitor Center.

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The 1865 fresco painted by Constantino Brumidi on the interior of the Capitol's dome is titled The Apotheosis of Washington.

The Apotheosis of Washington depicts George Washington sitting amongst the heavens in an exalted manner, or in literal terms, ascending and becoming a god (apotheosis). Washington, the first U.S. president and commander-in-chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War, is allegorically represented, surrounded by figures from classical mythology. Washington is draped in purple, a royal color, with a rainbow arch at his feet, flanked by the goddess Victoria (draped in green, using a horn) to his left and the Goddess of Liberty to his right. Liberty wears a red Phrygian cap, symbolizing emancipation, from a Roman tradition where sons leaving the home and/or slaves being emancipated would be given a red cap. She holds a fasces in her right hand and an open book in the other.

Forming a circle between Liberty and Victory are 13 maidens, each with a star above her head, representing the original 13 colonies. Several of the maidens have their backs turned to Washington, said to represent the colonies that had seceded

from the Union at the time of painting. Upside down above Washington is the banner E Pluribus Unum meaning "out of many, one".

Surrounding Washington, the two goddesses and the 13 maidens are six scenes lining the perimeter, each representing a national concept allegorically: from directly below Washington in the center and moving clockwise, "War," "Science," "Marine," "Commerce," "Mechanics," and "Agriculture". The perimeter scenes are not fully visible from the floor of the Capitol.

- Wikipedia Info and Right Photo from Wikipedia

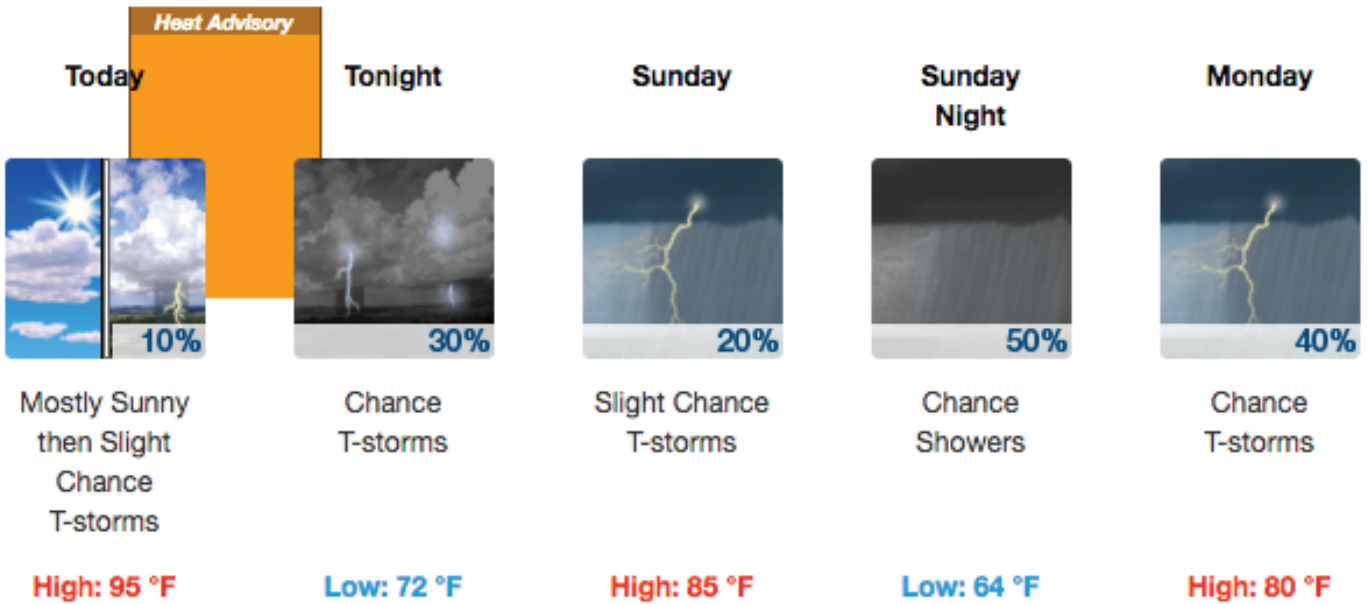


(Photo by Paul Kosel)



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SLIGHT RISK of Severe Storms

early this evening through daybreak Sunday

WHAT

Scattered severe thunderstorms possible. The storms could produce wind gusts up to around 60 mph, and large hail up to around the size of golf balls.

WHERE

Northeastern South Dakota and west central Minnesota, including Leola, Aberdeen, Webster, Sisseton, and Ortonville.

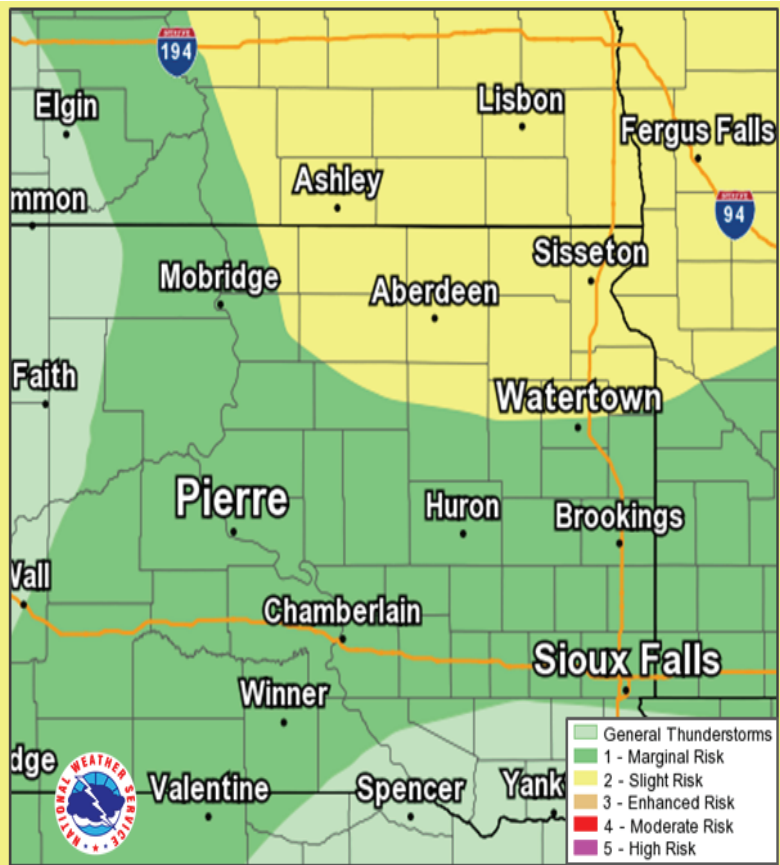
WHEN

Early this evening through daybreak Sunday. The highest risk period will be from around 8 pm tonight until around 1 am Sunday morning.

ACTION

Monitor the weather and have a plan of action if severe weather approaches your area.

ISSUED: 4:27 AM - Saturday, June 29, 2019



Published on: 06/29/2019 at 12:32AM

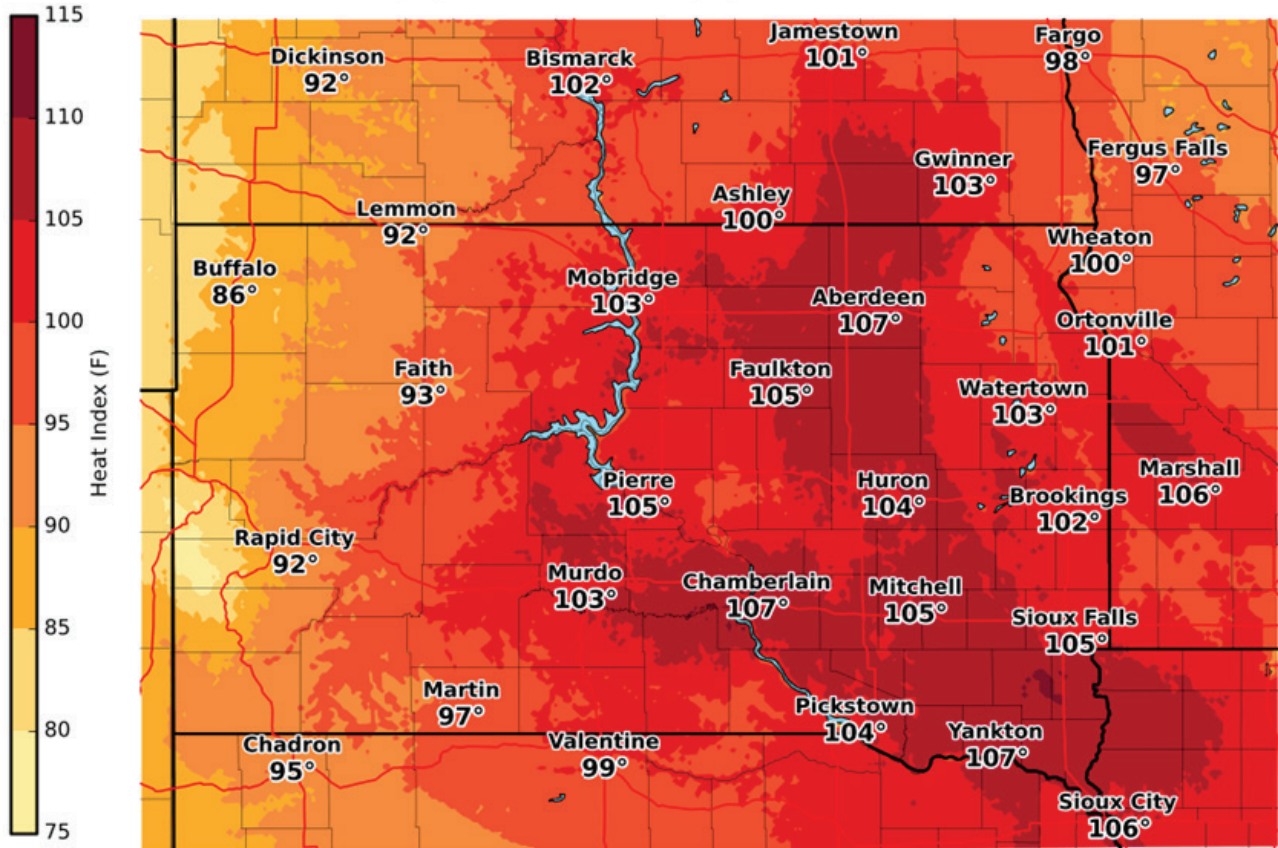
There is a Slight Risk for severe thunderstorms late this afternoon through tonight across portions of northeastern South Dakota and western Minnesota. The highest risk period will be from around 8 pm tonight until around 1 am Sunday morning. Damaging winds and large hail are the main threats with any strong storms that develop.

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Maximum Heat Index Today

Valid: 06/29/2019 07:00 AM - 06/30/2019 01:00 AM CDT



National Weather Service
Aberdeen SD
06/29/2019 03:46 AM CDT

Follow Us:   
[weather.gov/Aberdeen](https://www.weather.gov/Aberdeen)

Published on: 06/29/2019 at 12:12AM

High heat and humidity will combine to produce Heat Index values of 100 to 110 range across much of the Central and Northern Plains this afternoon.

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Today in Weather History

June 29, 1927: This estimated F2 tornado moved northeast from near Claremont, passing along the northwestern edge of Britton. The Claremont area had a \$12,000 loss as a large silo was destroyed. A dozen homes had roof damage in Britton.

June 29, 2005: Torrential rains of three to seven inches fell across far eastern Brown, western and northern Day, and most of Marshall Counties in the early morning and again in the afternoon hours. One location measured five inches of rain in two hours. Many township roads and highways were flooded along with thousands of acres of cropland. Water surrounded several homes resulting in people being rescued. Some of the houses were flooded. Many bridges were damaged, and roads and culverts were washed out. In Day County, 30 roads were washed out, and 15 bridges needed repairs. Some rainfall amounts include 5.04 inches in Britton, 3.34 at 8N of Columbia, and 2.08 in Aberdeen. Total June rainfall for some locations in Marshall and Day Counties was between 11 and 12 inches. The flooding continued into early July before receding by July 10th.

1826: Thomas Jefferson made his last entry in his weather observation log on this date, just six days before he died. The weather held a fascination for Jefferson as he made regular weather observations. He bought his first thermometer while working on the Declaration of Independence and his first barometer shortly after that.

1904: Tornado hits Karacharov Village area of Moscow killing about 24 people.

1998: "The Corn Belt Derecho of 1998" in the following states NE, IA, IL, IN, KY. A derecho which originated in far southeast South Dakota moved across Illinois during the afternoon and evening and continued as far east as Ohio the next morning. Every county in central Illinois sustained some damage, as these severe thunderstorms passed. Winds gusted in the 60 to 80 mph range, with some localized microbursts producing winds more than 100 mph. Significant damage occurred in the microburst areas, including the towns of Morton, McLean, LeRoy, and Tolono. In Tolono, 22 cars of a southbound 101-car Illinois Central freight train were blown off the tracks. It was unknown how many vehicles were picked up by the wind, but 16 cars were turned over, and another six derailed but remained upright. The train was en route to Centralia from Chicago with a load of mixed freight, including plastic pellets and meal. The freight cars empty weighed about 60,000 pounds, while a full one weighs about 260,000 pounds. Overall, 12 people were injured, and damage was estimated at around \$16 million.

1931 - The temperature at Monticello FL hit 109 degrees to establish an all-time record for the state. (The Weather Channel)

1954 - Hurricane Alice dumped as much as 27 inches of rain on the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. The Rio Grande River at Laredo reached a level 12.6 feet above its previous highest mark, and the roadway of the U.S. 90 bridge was thirty feet below the high water. (David Ludlum)

1987 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather in the Ohio Valley and the Great Lakes Region, with reports of large hail and damaging winds most numerous in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. Thunderstorms spawned four tornadoes in Michigan. A tornado near Clare MI was accompanied by softball size hail. In Colorado, an untimely winter-like storm blanketed Mount Evans with six inches of snow. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Alpena, MI, reported a record low of 39 degrees while Jackson, MS, equalled their record for the month of June with an afternoon high of 105 degrees. Thunderstorms in the central U.S. soaked Springfield MO with 3.62 inches of rain, a record for the date. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather in the Southern and Central High Plains Region. Thunderstorms in Colorado produced softball size hail at Kit Carson, while pea to marble size hail caused ten million dollars damage to crops in Philips County, CO. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

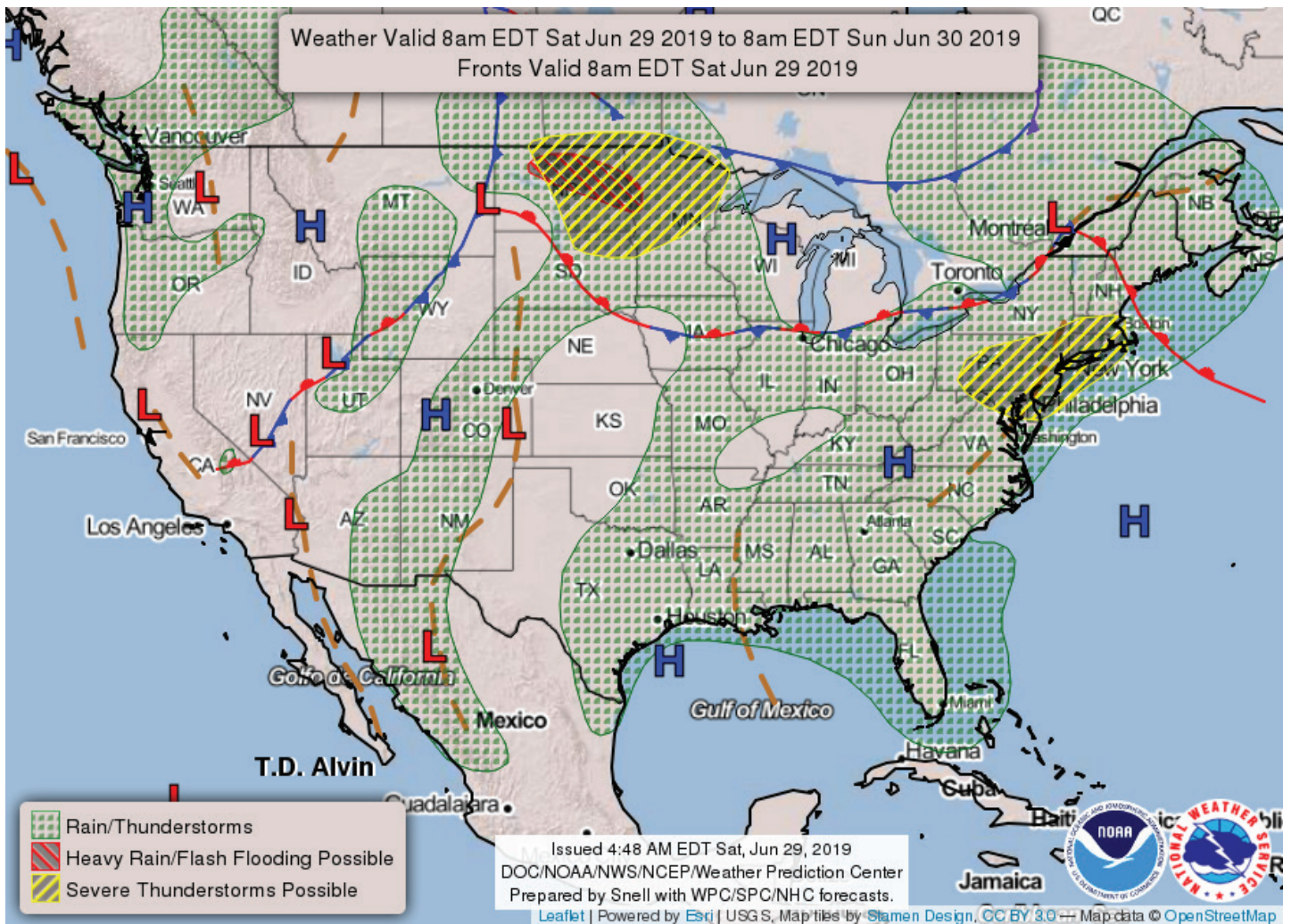
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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 88 °F at 5:59 PM
Low Temp: 68 °F at 2:41 AM
Wind: 24 mph at 2:44 PM
Day Rain: 0.00

Record High: 107° in 1931
Record Low: 42° in 1900
Average High: 81°F
Average Low: 57°F
Average Precip in June.: 3.47
Precip to date in June.: 4.53
Average Precip to date: 10.61
Precip Year to Date: 12.31
Sunset Tonight: 9:26 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:48 a.m.



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ABLE AND WILLING OR UNABLE AND UNWILLING

There are two themes that are consistent throughout the Bible. One is work and the other is giving. Soon after placing Adam in the Garden of Eden, God said to him, Work and take care of it... At that moment in history, God declared that man has a responsibility to work and provide for himself. However, in one of His sermons, Jesus said, Freely you have received, freely give. What if one is unable to work? Should the one who does work give what he has to support the one who cannot work?

Solomon wrote, The poor plead for mercy, but the rich answer harshly. Who is responsible to whom in this situation? The poor to work if they can, or the rich to give if they have plenty?

The poor in this verse is one who is pleading for help, and for whatever reason, are unable to work. They are willing to work but are unable. On the other hand, the wealthy in this verse, have plenty, are able to help, but unwilling actually unyielding to share their riches with those in need. The teaching is clear: If a person can work, they must. And, if a person is rich, their wealth came from God but they are, in fact, responsible to help those in need.

It is intriguing that the word mercy comes between the poor and the rich. Here the rich have wealth, but no mercy, and the poor, who need mercy to survive, are rejected.

Paul wrote, Though He was rich...He became poor. God knew we are poor and need His salvation that comes from His mercy. In love, He sent His son, that we might become rich!

PRAYER: Thank You, Father, for the gift of salvation that is ours because of Your mercy. We are grateful for this gift that we desperately need, but cannot afford. In Jesus Name, Amen

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 18:23 The poor plead for mercy, but the rich answer harshly.

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2019 Groton SD Community Events

- 01/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)
- 03/17/2019 Legion Post #39 Spring Fundraiser (Sunday closest to St. Patrick's Day, every other year)
- 04/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 04/27/2019 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 05/04/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 05/27/2019 Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program (Memorial Day)
- 06/13/2019 Transit Fundraiser (Thursday Mid-June)
- 06/14/2019 SDSU Golf Tournament at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 06/15/2019 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 06/21/2019 Best Ball Golf Tourney
- 06/22-23/2019 Groton Junior Legion Tournament
- 06/29/2019 Groton U10/U12 Round Robin Tournament
- 07/04/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 07/14/2019 Summer Fest/Car Show (Sunday Mid-July)
- 07/18/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Pro Am Tournament
- 07/21/2019 Granary Ice Cream Social & Family Music Fest
- 08/02/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Wine on Nine
- 08/09-11/2019 State Junior Legion Tournament in Groton
- 08/22/2019 First Day of School
- 09/07/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 09/08/2019 Sunflower Classic at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 09/08/2019 Granary Living History Fall Festival
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2019 Trunk or Treat/Halloween on Main (Halloween)
- 11/09/2019 Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/07/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Holiday Party
- 12/07/2019 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services
- Bingo: every Wednesday at the Legion Post #39

2020 Groton SD Community Events

- 4/4/2020 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 4/25/2020 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 5/2/2020 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)

News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — These South Dakota lotteries were drawn Friday:

Mega Millions

02-35-49-53-63, Mega Ball: 1, Megaplier: 2

(two, thirty-five, forty-nine, fifty-three, sixty-three; Mega Ball: one; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$71 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$137 million

Lawsuit accuses Sanford Health, surgeon of fraud, kickbacks

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Two doctors employed by Sanford Health are suing the company and one of its neurosurgeons, accusing them of defrauding the federal government and harming patients by performing unnecessary surgeries.

Dustin Bechtold and Bryan Wellman filed the lawsuit in 2016. The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of South Dakota filed a motion to intervene in the case Wednesday and a federal judge unsealed it Thursday.

According to the complaint, Sanford Health has been buying medical devices from Medical Designs, a company owned by neurosurgeon Dr. Wilson Asfora. The suit said Asfora used those devices in spine surgeries at the hospital in violation of anti-kickback laws. The suit describes accounts of Asfora installing unnecessary screws and medical devices into his patients.

"One level was all that was medically necessary for this patient," according to a summary of one patient's fusion. "Dr. Asfora put in three additional cages, which this patient did not need, but which Dr. Asfora personally benefited from financially. Dr. Asfora never saw this patient prior to surgery. Three of these levels were off-label, medically unnecessary, and medically tainted by kickbacks."

The 111-page suit also said Sanford and Asfora billed Medicare and other federal programs for care that was never provided.

The suit said Sanford's leadership ignored complaints from doctors and intentionally covered up Asfora's surgical errors.

Sanford's chief medical officer Dr. Allison Suttle denied the allegations in a statement to the Argus Leader, calling the doctors' claims "baseless." She said Asfora is talented, provides excellent care and has saved hundreds of lives.

"The allegations in this lawsuit have been investigated and were found to have no merit," Suttle wrote. "Sanford Health is confident in the care provided to our patients and will continue to provide quality care."

In 2014, Sanford paid the federal government \$625,000 in fines for violating anti-kickback rules, the Argus Leader reported.

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

Road damage from storms pegged at \$7.5 million

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — An assessment of the conditions of South Dakota's highways and byways following spring storms has pegged damage at \$7.5 million.

South Dakota Department of Transportation engineer Tammy Williams told the state Transportation Commission Thursday damage to county roads has reached more than \$6 million and \$1.5 million to state highways.

KELO-TV reports county governments haven't yet figured out how much work is waiting from snow and

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ice in May. Crews are still waiting for the water to go down in many places.

Williams says counties want special inspections of 261 bridges across South Dakota. Twelve bridges have been closed and three have traffic confined to single lanes because officials don't know how much weight the structures can bear.

Information from: KELO-TV, <http://www.keloland.com>

South Dakota Masons announce their participation in The 100th Anniversary Celebration of Mt. Roosevelt in Deadwood, South Dakota

DEADWOOD, S.D., June 28, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- The Masonic Grand Lodge of South Dakota is proud to announce that they will be performing a historic cornerstone ceremony as part of the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the dedication of Mount Theodore Roosevelt Monument, just outside of Deadwood, South Dakota at 10:00 AM on Saturday, July 6th, 2019.

Also scheduled to participate in this event is South Dakota Lt. Governor, Larry Rhoden, Black Hills National Forest Supervisor, Mark Van Every, Deadwood Mayor David Ruth, and the North Dakota official choral group, the Leeds Banner Girls. "We are so honored to be invited to be a part of this historic event." said Harold Ireland, Grand Master of Masons in South Dakota. "We will be recreating the Territorial Grand Lodge of Dakota for this cornerstone ceremony with the participation of Lowell Domier, Grand Master of Masons in North Dakota to further highlight the unique Masonic friendship between Seth Bullock and Theodore Roosevelt."

The Friendship Tower at Mt. Roosevelt was conceived by Seth Bullock as a tribute to honor his friend, Theodore Roosevelt after his death in 1919. President Roosevelt enjoyed Masonic cornerstone ceremonies, participating in a number of them, including the Cannon House Office Building, The Washington National Cathedral, and The Army War College in Washington, D.C., and The Roosevelt Arch, at Yellowstone National Park.

Masonry, a benevolent, educational and charitable organization is the world's oldest and largest fraternity of men dedicated to helping each other and contribute to the betterment of society. Masonic Lodges across South Dakota support various local youth and community projects and humanitarian efforts through South Dakota Masonic Charities.

Free shuttle service from the Deadwood Welcome Center to Mt. Roosevelt will begin at 8:00 AM.

You are encouraged to bring your own chairs.

"We're the Masons"

Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of South Dakota

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View original content to download multimedia: <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/south-dakota-masons-announce-their-participation-in-the-100th-anniversary-celebration-of-mt-roosevelt-in-deadwood-south-dakota-300877997.html>

SOURCE Grand Lodge of South Dakota

Sanford Health to pursue merger with Iowa's UnityPoint

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota-based Sanford Health and Iowa's UnityPoint Health said Friday that the two health care providers plan to merge, in an agreement that would create a sprawling health system in the northern Plains and Midwest.

The Argus Leader reported that if the merger is approved by regulators, it could be finalized by the end of this year.

The providers said in a joint statement that the merger would place the company among the top 15 largest nonprofit health systems nationwide. The new organization would employ more than 83,000 staff members, 2,600 physicians and have more than \$11 billion in revenue.

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UnityPoint operates 32 hospitals and has relationships with 280 physician clinics throughout Iowa, western Illinois and southern Wisconsin. Sanford Health's organization includes 44 hospitals, 1,400 physicians and more than 200 Good Samaritan Society senior care locations in 26 states and nine countries.

"We believe that in the very near future, fully integrated health systems will drive greater value through affordable options for high-quality health care to patients, governments and employers," Sanford President and CEO Kelby Krabbenhoft said in a statement. "The combination of Sanford and UnityPoint will help both organizations better meet this need, creating a new system positioned for continued growth across a broad geography."

UnityPoint President and CEO Kevin Vermeer said both organizations share a commitment to exceptional patient care and a vision for transforming and sustaining health in communities.

"Working together, we will find new ways to broaden access to care - beyond the traditional settings - and take greater responsibility for the health of the populations we serve," Vermeer said.

Some details of the merger are still being worked out, but the two systems agreed Krabbenhoft would be the new company's president and CEO and Vermeer would serve as senior executive vice president. A new governing board would be created with representatives from both systems and unaffiliated members with industry experience.

Friday's announcement comes 10 years after Sanford merged with North Dakota-based MeritCare. The system has seen steady growth, partly due to nearly \$1 billion in gifts from South Dakota banker and philanthropist T. Denny Sanford.

Sanford Health merged with the Good Samaritan Society last year. Following that deal, Sanford had revenues of about \$7.5 billion. UnityPoint has about \$4.4 billion in revenues.

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

Fungus that affects bats discovered in North Dakota

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The National Park Service says the fungus that causes a deadly disease in bats has been discovered in North Dakota.

The Bismarck Tribune reports the fungus was discovered after swab testing of a bat that was captured May 6 at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site near Stanton.

The fungus causes white-nose syndrome, which can lead to dehydration or other conditions that kill bats.

Thirty-three states have confirmed the disease since it was found in 2006 in New York. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wildlife refuge specialist Catherine Hibbard says four states, including North Dakota, have discovered only the fungus.

South Dakota identified the fungus and disease for the first time last year.

Humans can transmit the fungus but aren't affected by it. It is spread easily among bats.

Information from: Bismarck Tribune, <http://www.bismarcktribune.com>

DMZ diplomacy? Trump outreach to Kim for border rendezvous

By ZEKE MILLER and JONATHAN LEMIRE Associated Press

OSAKA, Japan (AP) — President Donald Trump issued a Twitter invitation Saturday to North Korea's Kim Jong Un to meet for a handshake at the demilitarized zone that separates the North and South, and expressed a willingness to cross the border for what would be a history-making photo opportunity.

The invitation, while long rumored in diplomatic circles, still came across as an impulsive display of showmanship by a president bent on obtaining a legacy-defining nuclear deal. North Korea responded by calling the offer a "very interesting suggestion."

Presidential visits to the DMZ are traditionally carefully guarded secrets for security reasons. White House officials couldn't immediately say whether Kim had agreed to meet with Trump. The president himself

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claimed he wasn't even sure Kim was in North Korea to accept the invitation.

"All I did is put out a feeler, if you'd like to meet," Trump said later of the message to Kim. He added, somewhat implausibly: "I just thought of it this morning."

Later, after arriving in South Korea from a conference in Japan of world leaders, Trump offered no further insight into his planned trip to the heavily fortified border. "It will be very interesting," he said.

While in Japan, Trump said at a news conference that he was "literally visiting the DMZ," but wasn't sure whether Kim would meet him.

Trump said he'd "feel very comfortable" crossing the border into North Korea if Kim showed up, saying he'd "have no problem" becoming the first U.S. president to step into North Korea.

His comments followed hours after Trump asked for Kim to meet him there. "If Chairman Kim of North Korea sees this, I would meet him at the Border/DMZ just to shake his hand and say Hello(?)" he wrote.

It was not immediately clear what the agenda, if any, would be for the potential third Trump-Kim meeting.

"If he's there we'll see each other for two minutes," Trump predicted.

Such a spectacle would present a valuable propaganda victory for Kim, who, with his family, has long been denied the recognition they sought on the international stage.

Despite Trump's comments Saturday, he had told The Hill newspaper in Washington in an interview this past week that he would be visiting the DMZ and "might" meet with Kim. The paper reported it had withheld Trump's comments, citing security concerns by the White House.

North Korea's first vice foreign minister, Choe Son Hui, said the meeting, if realized, would serve as "another meaningful occasion in further deepening the personal relations between the two leaders and advancing the bilateral relations."

South Korea's presidential Blue House said in a tweet that Trump asked South Korean President Moon Jae-in at the Group of 20 meetings whether he'd seen Trump's Twitter message to Kim. When Moon replied he had, Trump said "(Let's) try doing it" and raised his thumb, the Blue House said.

Trump's summit with Kim in Vietnam earlier this year collapsed without an agreement for denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula. He became the first sitting U.S. president to meet with the leader of the isolated nation last year, when they signed an agreement in Singapore to bring the North toward denuclearization.

Substantive talks between the nations have largely broken down since then. The North has balked at Trump's insistence that it give up its weapons before it sees relief from crushing international sanctions.

Still, Trump has sought to praise Kim, who oversees an authoritarian government, in hopes of keeping the prospects of a deal alive, and the two have traded flowery letters in recent weeks.

Every president since Ronald Reagan has visited the 1953 armistice line, except for George H.W. Bush, who visited when he was vice president. The show of bravado and support for South Korea, one of America's closest military allies, has evolved over the years to include binoculars and bomber jackets.

Trump, ever the showman, appears to be looking to one-up his predecessors with a Kim meeting.

As he left the White House for Asia earlier this week, Trump was asked whether he'd meet with Kim.

"I'll be meeting with a lot of other people ... but I may be speaking to him in a different form," Trump said.

Such trips to the demilitarized zone are usually undertaken under heavy security and the utmost secrecy. Trump tried to visit the DMZ when he was in Seoul in November 2017, but his helicopter was grounded by heavy fog.

Trump has staked his self-professed deal-making reputation on his rapprochement with the North and has even turned it into a campaign rallying cry. Trump has repeatedly alleged that if he had lost the 2016 presidential campaign, the U.S. would be "at war" with North Korea over its nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs.

The meeting would come at a time of escalating tensions. While North Korea has not recently tested a long-range missile that could reach the U.S., last month it fired off a series of short-range missiles. Trump has brushed off the significance of the tests, even as his own national security adviser, John Bolton, has said they violated U.N. Security Council resolutions.

Trump also suggested Saturday that the North was prepared to turn over additional unidentified remains

of unknown American and allied service-members. At least six Americans have been identified from 55 boxes of remains delivered by the North last year after Trump's first meeting with Kim, but the Defense Department announced in May that it was halting efforts to recover additional remains, citing lack of cooperation from North Korea.

Associated Press writers Hyung-jin Kim and Kim Tong-hyung in Seoul, South Korea, and Darlene Super-ville and Jill Colvin in Washington contributed to this report.

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Truce in US-China trade war as 2 rivals seek breakthrough

By **JONATHAN LEMIRE** and **ZEKE MILLER** Associated Press

OSAKA, Japan (AP) — President Donald Trump and China's Xi Jinping agreed to a cease-fire Saturday in their nations' yearlong trade war, averting for now an escalation feared by financial markets, businesses and farmers.

Trump said U.S. tariffs will remain in place against Chinese imports while negotiations continue. Additional trade penalties he has threatened against billions worth of other Chinese goods will not take effect for the "time being," he said, and the economic powers will restart stalled talks that have already gone 11 rounds.

"We're going to work with China where we left off," Trump said after a lengthy meeting with Xi while the leaders attended the Group of 20 summit in Osaka.

While Trump said relations with China were "right back on track," doubts persist about the two nations' willingness to compromise on a long-term solution. Among the sticking points: The U.S. contends that Beijing steals technology and coerces foreign companies into handing over trade secrets; China denies it engages in such practices.

The apparent truce continues a pattern for Trump and Xi, who have professed their friendship and paused protectionist measures, only to see negotiations later break down.

The United States has imposed 25% import taxes on \$250 billion in Chinese products and is threatening to target an additional \$300 billion, extending the tariffs to virtually everything China ships to America.

China has countered with tariffs on \$110 billion in American goods, focusing on agricultural products in a direct and painful shot at Trump supporters in the U.S. farm belt.

Some progress seemed to be made in a dispute involving the Chinese telecommunications company Huawei, which the Trump administration has branded a national security threat and barred it from buying American technology. Trump said Saturday he would allow U.S. companies to sell their products to Huawei, but he was not yet willing to remove the company from a trade blacklist.

The U.S. has tried to rally other countries to block Huawei from their upcoming 5G systems.

The Trump-Xi meeting between the two leaders was the centerpiece of four days of diplomacy in Asia for Trump, whose re-election chances have been put at risk by the trade dispute that has hurt American farmers and battered global markets. Tensions rose after negotiations collapsed last month.

Trump said the talks with Xi went "probably even better than expected."

Both men struck a cautiously optimistic tone after they posed for photographs.

"We've had an excellent relationship," Trump told Xi as the meeting opened, "but we want to do something that will even it up with respect to trade."

Xi recounted the era of "pingpong diplomacy" that helped jump-start U.S.-China relations two generations ago. Since then, he said, "one basic fact remains unchanged: China and the United States both benefit from cooperation and lose in confrontation."

"Cooperation and dialogue are better than friction and confrontation," he added.

The meeting with Xi was one of three that Trump held Saturday with world leaders who display authoritarian tendencies.

Trump had his first face-to-face discussion with Saudi Arabia's Mohammed bin Salman since U.S. intel-

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Intelligence agencies concluded that the crown prince directed the murder of Washington Post columnist and American resident Jamal Khashoggi last year.

Trump, who referred to the Saudi royal as his "friend," has long tried to minimize the prince's role in the murder and has been reluctant to criticize the killing of the Saudi critic at the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul last year. Trump views Saudi Arabia as the lynchpin of U.S.' Middle East strategy to counter Iran.

At a news conference after the summit, Trump said Khashoggi's killing was "horrible," but that Saudi Arabia had "been a terrific ally." Trump suggested he was satisfied with steps that the kingdom was taking to prosecute some of those involved, while he claimed that "nobody so far has pointed directly a finger" at Saudi Arabia's future king.

U.S. intelligence officials have concluded that bin Salman must have at least known of the plot.

The summit came a week after Trump pulled back from ordering a military strike on Iran for downing an American unmanned spy plane. Iran now stands on the threshold of breaching uranium enrichment thresholds set in a 2015 nuclear deal from which Trump withdrew. Trump said he would not preview his response should Iran top that limit, but said, "We cannot let Iran have a nuclear weapon."

Trump also met with Turkey's president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, an ostensible NATO ally whom the U.S. sees as drifting dangerously toward Russia's sphere of influence.

Trump said the two will "look at different solutions" to Turkey's planned purchase of the Russian-made S-400 surface-to-air missile system. U.S. officials have threatened to halt the sale of U.S.-made F-35 Joint Strike Fighter to Turkey if the Russian purchase goes through; Erdogan has called it a done deal.

"Turkey has been a friend of ours," Trump said. He blamed the Obama administration for not agreeing to sell U.S.-made Patriot missile batteries to Turkey, calling the situation a "mess" and "not really Erdogan's fault."

A day earlier, Trump met with Russia's Vladimir Putin and, with a smirk and a finger point, jokingly told him, "Don't meddle with the election." It was their first meeting since special counsel Robert Mueller concluded that Russia extensively interfered with the 2016 campaign.

Pressed whether he pushed the issue more seriously in private, Trump said he had raised it with Putin, adding, "You know he denies it, totally. How many times can you get someone to deny something?"

Putin told reporters that "we talked about it," but he did not elaborate. He said he believes it's necessary to "turn the page" in relations with the U.S., which have plunged to the lowest level since the Cold War times.

Associated Press writers Patrick Quinn in Bangkok and Paul Wiseman, Darlene Superville and Jill Colvin in Washington contributed to this report.

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AP FACT CHECK: Trump on Mueller, trade; Dem debate debut

By CALVIN WOODWARD and HOPE YEN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A few months ago, President Donald Trump affirmed that he thought special counsel Robert Mueller acted honorably in the Russia investigation. Now Trump is back in "witch hunt" territory, this time falsely accusing Mueller of committing a crime.

The provocative remark came as the president persisted in misrepresenting trade in multiple dimensions and claimed a record on poverty he didn't achieve.

Democratic presidential candidates, meantime, stepped forward for their first debates and tripped at times on issues dear to them: climate change, health care and immigration among them.

A recap of the week:

MUELLER

TRUMP, on communications between two FBI employees: "Mueller terminated them illegally. He terminated the emails, he terminated all of the stuff between Strzok and Page, you know they sung like you've

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never seen. Robert Mueller terminated their text messages together. He would - he terminated them. They're gone. And that's illegal, he — that's a crime." — interview Wednesday on Fox Business Network.

THE FACTS: Not true. Mueller had no role in deleting anti-Trump text messages traded by former FBI counterintelligence agent Peter Strzok and ex-FBI lawyer Lisa Page, and there's no basis for saying he was involved in anything illegal. Also, the communications didn't vanish.

Once Mueller learned of the existence of the texts, which were sent before his appointment as special counsel, he removed Strzok from his team investigating potential ties between Russia and the Trump campaign.

The FBI, for technical reasons, was initially unable to retrieve months of text messages between the two officials. But the FBI was ultimately able to recover them and there's never been any allegation that Mueller had anything to do with that process.

DEMOCRATS ON TAX CUTS

SEN. BERNIE SANDERS: "Eighty-three percent of your tax benefits go to the top 1%." — debate Thursday.

THE FACTS: That statistic is not close to true now. The Vermont senator is referring to 2027, not the present day. He didn't include that critical context in his statement.

His figures come from an analysis by the Tax Policy Center. That analysis found that in 2027 the top 1% of earners would get 83% of the savings from the tax overhaul signed into law by Trump. Why is that? Most of the tax cuts for individuals are set to expire after 2025, so their benefits go away while cuts for corporations continue. The 2017 tax overhaul does disproportionately favor the wealthy and corporations, but just 20.5% of the benefits went to the top 1% last year.

RACE

SEN. KAMALA HARRIS: "Vice President Biden, do you agree today that you were wrong to oppose busing in America, then?"

JOE BIDEN: "I did not oppose busing in America. What I opposed is busing ordered by the Department of Education. That's what I opposed." — debate Thursday.

THE FACTS: That's hairsplitting.

The former vice president is claiming that he only opposed the U.S. Education Department's push for busing to integrate schools because he didn't want federal mandates forced on local school boards. But in the early and mid-1970s, those were the fault lines in almost every U.S. community, from New Orleans to Boston, where there was stiff opposition to busing. If you were a politician opposing federally enforced busing, you were enabling any local school board or city government that was fighting against it.

As a senator in the late 1970s, Biden supported several measures, including one signed by President Jimmy Carter, that restricted the federal government's role in forced busing.

Biden told NPR in 1975 that he would support a constitutional amendment to ban court-ordered busing "if it can't be done through a piece of legislation."

MIGRANT CHILDREN

BIDEN, on Trump's treatment of migrant children at the border: "The idea that he's in court with his Justice Department saying, children in cages do not need a bed, do not need a blanket, do not need a toothbrush — that is outrageous."

HARRIS: "I will release children from cages."

JOHN HICKENLOOPER, former Colorado governor: "If you would have ever told me any time in my life that this country would sanction federal agents to take children from the arms of their parents, put them in cages, actually put them up for adoption — in Colorado we call that kidnapping — I would have told you it was unbelievable." — debate Thursday.

THE FACTS: They are tapping into a misleading and common insinuation by Democrats about Trump placing "children in cages."

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The cages are chain-link fences and the Obama-Biden administration used them, too. Children and adults are held behind them, inside holding Border Patrol facilities, under the Trump administration as well.

President Barack Obama's administration detained large numbers of unaccompanied children inside chain link fences in 2014. Images that circulated online of children in cages during the height of Trump's family separations controversy were actually from 2014 when Obama was in office.

Children are placed in such areas by age and sex for safety reasons and are supposed to be held for no longer than 72 hours by the Border Patrol. But as the number of migrants continues to grow under the Trump administration, the system is clogged at every end, so Health and Human Services, which manages the care of children in custody, can't come get the children in time. Officials say they are increasingly holding children for 5 days or longer.

HHS facilities are better equipped to manage the care of children. But, facing budget concerns, officials cut activities such as soccer, English classes and legal aid for children in their care.

As for Hickenlooper's claim about the government forcing those children into unwanted adoption, that is not federal policy.

HEALTH CARE

SANDERS: Under "Medicare for All," "the vast majority of the people in this country will be paying significantly less for health care than they are now." — debate Thursday.

THE FACTS: Probably true, but that's only part of the equation for a family. Sanders' plan for a government-run health care system to replace private insurance calls for no premiums, and no copays and deductibles. But taxes would have to go up significantly as the government takes on trillions of dollars in health care costs now covered by employers and individuals. Independent studies estimate the government would be spending an additional \$28 trillion to \$36 trillion over 10 years, although Medicare for All supporters say that's overstating it.

How those tax increases would be divvied up remains to be seen, as Sanders has not released a blueprint for how to finance his plan.

CLIMATE CHANGE

BIDEN, on Obama's record: "He is the first man to bring together the entire world — 196 nations — to commit to deal with climate change." — debate Thursday.

THE FACTS: Not really. Biden is minimizing a major climate deal from 22 years ago, a decade before Obama became president.

In 1997, nations across the world met in Japan and hammered out the Kyoto Protocol to limit climate change in a treaty that involved more than 190 countries at different points in time. That treaty itself stemmed from the 1992 U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Biden is referring to an agreement that came out of a 2015 meeting in Paris that was the 21st climate change convention meeting.

The Kyoto Protocol only required specific greenhouse gas emission cuts of developed nations, fewer than half the countries in the world. The Paris agreement, where several world leaders pushed hard, including France's president, has every country agreeing to do something. But each country proposed its own goals.

JAY INSLEE, Washington's governor: "We are the first generation to feel the sting of climate change and we are the last that can do something about it. ... It is our last chance in an administration, next one, to do something about it." — debate Wednesday.

THE FACTS: Not quite. This answer implies that after 2025 or 2029, when whoever is elected in 2020 leaves office, it will be too late to fight or limit climate change.

That's a common misconception that stemmed from a U.N. scientific report that came out last fall, which talked about 2030, mostly because that's a key date in the Paris climate agreement. The report states that with every half a degree Celsius and with every year, global warming and its dangers get worse. However,

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it does not say at some point it is too late.

"The hotter it gets the worse it gets but there is no cliff edge," James Skea, co-chairman of the report and professor of sustainable energy at Imperial College London, told The Associated Press.

The report co-author, Swiss climate scientist Sonia I. Seneviratne this month tweeted, "Many scientists point - rightfully - to the fact that we cannot state with certainty that climate would suddenly go berserk in 12 years if we weren't doing any climate mitigation. But who can state with certainty that we would be safe beyond that stage or even before that?"

BETO O'ROURKE, a former U.S. representative from Texas, referring to the international climate goal: "If all of us does all that we can, then we're going to be able to keep this planet from warming another 2 degrees Celsius and ensure that we match what this country can do and live up to our promise and our potential." — debate Wednesday.

THE FACTS: O'Rourke gets the climate goal wrong.

Since 2009, international summits and the Paris climate agreement list the overarching goal as limiting climate change to no more than 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) from pre-industrial times. That's somewhere between 1850 and 1880, depending on who is calculating.

There's a big difference because since pre-industrial times, Earth has already warmed 1 degree Celsius (1.8 degrees Fahrenheit). So the world community is talking about 1 degree Celsius from now and O'Rourke is talking about twice that.

REP. TIM RYAN: "The bottom 60% haven't seen a raise since 1980. The top 1% control 90% of the wealth." — debate Wednesday.

THE FACTS: Those figures exaggerate the state of income and wealth inequality. While few studies single out the bottom 60%, the Congressional Budget Office calculates that the bottom 80% of Americans have seen their incomes rise 32% since 1979. That is certainly lower than the doubling of income enjoyed by the top one-fifth of income earners. And the richest 1% possess 32% of the nation's wealth, according to data from the Federal Reserve, not 90%.

O'ROURKE: "That's how you explain an economy that is rigged to corporations and the very wealthiest. A \$2 trillion tax cut that favored corporations while they were sitting on record piles of cash and the very wealthiest in this country at a time of historic wealth inequality." — debate Wednesday.

THE FACTS: The tax cut wasn't quite that big: The Joint Committee on Taxation estimates that it will reduce tax revenues by \$1.5 trillion over the next decade. And individuals, not corporations, will actually receive the bulk of those cuts — they're getting \$1.1 trillion while businesses get \$654 billion, offset by higher tax revenues from changes to international tax law.

The tax cuts did mostly favor richer Americans: The top one-fifth of income earners got 65% of the benefit from the tax cuts in 2018 with just 1% going to the poorest one-fifth, according to the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center.

TRUMP ON ECONOMY

TRUMP on his tariffs on Chinese goods: "Don't let anyone tell you that we're paying. We're not paying, China's paying for it." — Fox Business Network interview.

THE FACTS: Americans are paying for it.

Trump refuses to recognize a reality that his own chief economic adviser, Larry Kudlow, has acknowledged. Tariffs are mainly if not entirely paid by companies and consumers in the country that imposes them. China is not sending billions of dollars to the U.S. treasury.

In a study in May, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, with Princeton and Columbia universities, estimated that tariffs from Trump's trade dispute with China were costing \$831 per U.S. household on an annual basis. And that was based on the situation in 2018, before tariffs escalated. Analysts also found that

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the burden of Trump's tariffs falls entirely on U.S. consumers and businesses that buy imported products.

Trump persistently mischaracterizes trade in all its dimensions, giving the wrong numbers for trade deficits, asserting that tariffs did not exist before him, and portraying them inaccurately as a windfall for the government and taxpayers. In that respect, he was correct when he said in the interview, "I view tariffs differently than a lot of other people."

TRUMP: "The poverty index is also best number EVER." — tweet Wednesday.

THE FACTS: Not true. The current poverty rate of 12.3% is not the lowest ever; it's fallen below that several times over the last half-century, according to the Census Bureau's official count.

The poverty rate dropped only modestly under Trump's watch, to 12.3 percent in 2017 — the latest figure available — from 12.7 percent in 2016. At the same time, nearly 40 million Americans remained poor by the Census Bureau's count, statistically unchanged from 2016.

The poverty rate previously has stood at 12.3% as recently as 2006, and was 11.3% in 2000.

The U.S. poverty rate hit a record low of 11.1% in 1973.

TRUMP: "Obama's economy was ready to crash." — Fox Business Network interview on Wednesday.

THE FACTS: This is little more than blind speculation designed to make his own record look better. The data suggest he is wrong.

The U.S. economy added 2.5 million jobs in 2016, which was the final year of President Barack Obama's term, more than were added in 2017 or 2018 during the Trump administration. The Standard & Poor's 500 stock index climbed 11% over the course of 2016. Economic growth did slump to 1.6% in 2016, though that hardly suggested a downturn, as growth had been a healthy 2.9% in 2015 — the same level achieved in 2018 when Trump was boasting about having fostered the strongest economy in U.S. history.

Associated Press writers Josh Boak, Christopher Rugaber, Colleen Long, Seth Borenstein, Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar, Stephen Braun, Eric Tucker, and Paul Wiseman in Washington and Amanda Seitz in Chicago contributed to this report.

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Trump, Xi hit reset button on trade but long slog awaits

By PAUL WISEMAN and KELVIN CHAN AP Business Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Once again, Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping have hit the reset button in trade talks between the world's two biggest economies, at least delaying an escalation in tension between the U.S. and China that had financial markets on edge and cast a cloud over the global economy.

But when U.S. and Chinese negotiators sit down to work out details, the same difficult task remains: getting China to convince the United States that it will curb its aggressive push to challenge American technological dominance — and then to live up to its promises.

At the Group of 20 meeting in Osaka, Japan, Trump and Xi agreed to a cease-fire in the trade conflict. Trump said Saturday he would hold off for the "time being" on plans to impose tariffs on \$300 billion more in Chinese imports — on top of the \$250 billion he's already targeted. This decision will jump-start trade talks that stalled last month.

"We're going to work with China where we left off," Trump said Saturday. He also said China had agreed to buy more American farm products.

Addressing another contentious issue, Trump said he will now allow U.S. companies to sell components to Chinese telecommunications giant Huawei, which last month was put on an American blacklist as a threat to national security. Trump said that Huawei will stay on the blacklist, however, and that its future won't be decided until the end of the trade talks.

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Neil Shearing, London-based chief economist at Capital Economics, predicted that financial markets will rally with relief when they reopen Monday. "But I don't think this marks the turning of the tide," he said. "Talks will ebb and flow, but the direction over the next 12 months will be toward renewed escalation because issues around industrial strategy will prove to be so intractable."

The Trump administration says China is trying to cheat its way to dominance in the cutting-edge technologies of the future such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing.

In a report last year, the Office of the United States Trade Representative accused Beijing of resorting to predatory tactics to challenge American technological supremacy.

These include forcing foreign companies to hand over technology in exchange for access to the Chinese market; subsidizing its own companies (especially those owned by the state) while burying foreign firms in regulations; providing government money so Chinese firms can buy sensitive foreign technology at above-market prices; and stealing trade secrets outright.

Eleven rounds of talks failed to end the standoff. The United States has imposed 25% import taxes on \$250 billion in Chinese products and threatened to target \$300 billion more — a move that would extend the tariffs to virtually everything China ships to the United States.

China has lashed back with tariffs on \$110 billion in American goods, focusing on agricultural products in a direct and painful shot at Trump supporters in the U.S. farm belt.

The last time Trump and Xi met — in early December at a G-20 gathering in Buenos Aires, Argentina — they also reached a cease-fire that injected new life into the talks. But the momentum didn't last.

Until May, it appeared that the two countries were slowly closing in on a deal. But then U.S. officials accused their Chinese counterparts of reneging on commitments they'd made earlier, and talks broke down.

Getting them back on track could prove difficult. Beijing is reluctant to end subsidies to Chinese companies and to write any commitments into Chinese law. The Chinese also want the United States to drop its tariffs as a condition of any deal. But the Trump administration insists on keeping tariffs to use as leverage to make sure that China keeps its promises.

Both countries have economic and political incentives to reach a deal. Xi is overseeing a decelerating economy and likely won't want to be engaged in a destructive trade war when China's ruling Communist Party meets in October. Trump, too, is confronted with an economy that, though still healthy, has looked a bit wobbly. And the trade hostilities with China have hurt his supporters in rural America as he campaigns for re-election in 2020.

"This is a truce for now - for Xi, ahead of the Communist Party celebrations in October and for Trump, dependent on how his re-election campaign progresses," said Diana Coyleva, chief economist at Enodo Economics. "But as we've said before, fundamentally, this dispute is about much more than trade - it's part of a longer-term Great Decoupling that stems from a conflict over technological supremacy and geopolitical power. This is about redefining the world political and economic order, a process that will see periods of relative calm and also periods of significant turbulence."

Jacob Parker, vice president of the U.S.-China Business Council in Beijing, sees "substantive issues that remain to be resolved — subsidies, state-owned enterprise reform, industrial policy in China — that go to the core of China's economic system. These are not issues that are going to be resolved quickly or overnight. And I think we have to expect that both sides are going to have to compromise a little bit. They can't let perfect be the enemy of good."

Chan reported from London

Associated Press journalists Fu Ting and Sam McNeil in Beijing contributed to this report.

Rebuked by many, Saudi crown prince feted at G20 summit

By FOSTER KLUG Associated Press

OSAKA, Japan (AP) — For many he's an international pariah, but you wouldn't know it by the lavish re-

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ception Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has received at the G-20 summit this week.

He beamed as he stood front and center, sandwiched between President Donald Trump and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, for a group photo. He exchanged an impish grin as he sat down next to Russian President Vladimir Putin. He posed with South Korean President Moon Jae-in and a group of flag-waving kids ahead of an earlier signing ceremony for \$8 billion in deals.

Even as rebukes pile up elsewhere — a U.N. expert has called for an investigation of his alleged role in the killing of a prominent journalist, and a growing number of Americans are questioning their nation's support for his kingdom and its role in the war in Yemen — some leaders in Osaka have gone out of their way to make sure the prince feels comfortable.

It's not clear if he was pressed privately over concerns about the killing last October of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi, who had criticized the Saudi heir in columns for The Washington Post. But the prince seemed completely at ease in public on Friday and Saturday.

These high-profile gatherings can often have a club-like feel to them, with well-dressed leaders standing around and talking — sometimes intensely, sometimes convivially — before and after the photo-ops and public statements. In the absence of many details about what's happening behind closed doors, observers are forced to spend a lot of time parsing body language. And, at least when the cameras were rolling, that language has been overwhelmingly positive for the prince.

In addition to standing next to Trump in the center part of the front row for the first group photo, the prince was seated next to the summit's host, Abe, at the official opening ceremony, possibly a reflection of Saudi Arabia's role as host of next year's G-20 gatherings.

As the prince — easily one of the tallest leaders, and striking in his flowing, ankle-length robes — strode from meeting to meeting, or wandered among the other leaders before the summit's set-piece ceremonies, he often flashed a broad smile. At Saturday's panel on women's empowerment, for instance, he sat in the front row, chatting amicably with other leaders.

Trump, who has long been loath to scold authoritarian leaders for human rights abuses, seemed to go out of his way at times to shepherd Prince Mohammed, at one point patting him on the back as they walked together.

As the two sat down over breakfast Saturday, Trump praised his "friend" for taking steps to open up the kingdom and extend freedoms to Saudi women.

Trump initially ignored reporters' questions about the prince's alleged role in Khashoggi's death, but when pressed later at a news conference he called the killing "horrible" while claiming that "nobody so far has pointed directly a finger at the future king of Saudi Arabia." A White House statement said the two leaders discussed "Saudi Arabia's critical role in ensuring stability in the Middle East and global oil markets, the growing threat from Iran, increased trade and investments between the two countries, and the importance of human rights issues."

The U.S. president sees a close relationship with Saudi Arabia as a lynchpin to Washington's Middle East strategy to counter Iran. Trump has brushed aside Khashoggi's killing and said it has already been investigated. A Saudi pledge to spend billions of dollars on U.S. military equipment, Trump said, "means something to me."

Following a monthslong inquiry, Agnes Callamard, the U.N. special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, recently said she'd concluded that Khashoggi was a victim of a "deliberate, pre-meditated execution, an extrajudicial killing for which the state of Saudi Arabia is responsible."

Saudi Arabia denies the 33-year-old crown prince had any knowledge of the killing of Khashoggi. The kingdom has put on trial 11 suspects, some of whom worked directly for the prince. But his closest former adviser, Saud al-Qahtani, who was sanctioned by the United States after the killing, is not among those on trial.

Business concerns may have colored Prince Mohammed's warm welcome this week.

Take South Korea, for instance. In Seoul before the summit, Saudi Arabia and South Korea signed 10 memorandums of understanding and contracts that would be worth \$8.3 billion, according to Seoul's

presidential office. Moon, the president, hosted a luncheon at his mansion that was attended by some of South Korea's most powerful businessmen.

South Korea gets more than 70% of its crude oil from the Middle East. Seoul is the world's fifth largest importer of crude oil and Saudi Arabia has been its biggest supplier. Prince Mohammed, during his meetings with Moon, promised to help with possible fuel shortages in case of supply disruptions caused by Middle East turmoil.

Not everyone was happy about his reception.

Some South Koreans criticized the country's two major English newspapers — The Korea Herald and The Korea Times — for using their front pages Wednesday to publish identical full-page ads by S-Oil, a South Korean oil refining company that is a subsidiary of the giant Saudi oil company Aramco. The ads printed the national flags of Saudi Arabia and South Korea side by side and contained the message, "We welcome HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al-Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defense."

There was also criticism of a massive photo of the prince unfurled on the Seoul headquarters of S-Oil.

The worries about the abuse claims may not resonate in the G-20 meetings. But there's mounting concern about the ties between the kingdom and the many Western nations that have relied on its natural resources and political position.

In a recent opinion piece in The New York Times, David Wearing, the author of "AngloArabia: Why Gulf Wealth Matters to Britain," said strategic bonds between Saudi Arabia and the Atlantic powers may survive, "but the existential threats are now plain to see, and if anyone in Riyadh, Washington or London has a serious plan to preserve the status quo, they are keeping it a closely guarded secret."

Associated Press writer Kim Tong-hyung in Seoul, South Korea, contributed to this report.

The Latest: K-pop band greets Trump during Seoul visit **OSAKA, Japan (AP) — The Latest on President Donald Trump's trip to Asia. (all times local):**

8:45 p.m.

President Donald Trump is being welcomed to South Korea by its president — and one of its biggest K-pop boy bands.

Trump's met with President Moon Jae-in (jah-YIHN') at the Blue House, where the South Korean leader has his offices and home.

Trump also met EXO, a star pop group whose members gave the president a book. They also chatted with Trump's daughter, Ivanka, and his son-in-law, Jared Kushner.

The president isn't saying whether he'll meet North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un (gihm jung oon) on Sunday at the heavily fortified South Korean-North Korean border known as the DMZ.

Trump is just saying "it will be very interesting" but he's not giving other details about the surprise trip, which he announced earlier in the day on Twitter.

7:10 p.m.

President Donald Trump has landed in South Korea, and a meeting with North Korea's Kim Jong Un (gihm jung oon) may be on his agenda.

Trump flew from Osaka, Japan, where he attended a global summit and held numerous meetings with world leaders, including Russia's Vladimir Putin (POO'-tihn) and China's Xi Jinping (shee jihn-peeng).

Trump has said he'll visit the heavily-fortified demilitarized zone that separates North and South Korea, and he's invited Kim to join him "just to shake his hand and say Hello(?)"

Trump is also scheduled to meet with South Korean President Moon Jae-in (jah-YIHN') while in Seoul.

5:30 p.m.

President Donald Trump is not yet willing to remove the Chinese telecom giant Huawei (WAH'-way) from

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a trade blacklist.

But the president says he will now allow U.S. companies to sell components to Huawei again.

The fate of the company had become central in the ongoing US-China trade battle. Trump, attending an international summit in Japan, announced that negotiations between the two nations would resume.

But Trump says the company's future would not be decided until the end of the trade talks.

He met with China's President Xi Jinping (shee jihn-peeng) earlier Saturday but said that the topic of Meng Wanzhou, a Huawei executive held in Canada at the request of the United States, was not discussed.

5:15 p.m.

President Donald Trump says he did warn Russian President Vladimir Putin (POO'-tihn) about interfering in upcoming U.S. elections.

Trump joked with Putin about the matter when they met Friday on the margins of a summit in Japan. Asked Saturday about his demeanor, Trump said to "take a look at the words. I did say it."

Trump has been criticized for appearing unserious about Russian meddling in the 2016 election. Federal investigators recently found extensive interference by Russia in the election Trump won. Trump bristles at suggestions that he was elected with foreign help.

He previously has accepted Putin's denials of meddling, and noted again Saturday that "he denies it totally."

Trump said he's giving "very serious consideration" to visiting Moscow next spring for the 75th anniversary of the Nazi defeat.

4:55 p.m.

President Donald Trump is weighing in on Thursday evening's Democratic presidential debate and arguing that California Sen. Kamala (KAH'-mah-lah) Harris has gotten too much credit for a blistering attack on former Vice President Joe Biden.

Trump is offering his assessment during a news conference marking the end of the Group of 20 summit in Osaka, Japan.

Harris has been widely praised for her move highlighting Biden's opposition to public school busing during the 1970s. But Trump says he thinks she "was given far too much credit for what she did" and says her answer came "right out of a box."

Trump also says Biden was no Winston Churchill — a reference to the great orator — but argued his performance wasn't that bad.

4:45 p.m.

President Donald Trump is defending his decision not to confront Saudi Arabia's Mohammed Bin Salman over the murder of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi (jah-MAHL' khahr-SHOHK'-jee).

Trump is praising Mohammed as his "friend" as they met on the sidelines of the Group of 20 summit in Osaka, Japan. Trump has ignored reporters' questions about the crown prince's alleged role in the killing last year.

Trump is calling the killing "horrible," but says that Saudi Arabia has "been a terrific ally." He's also suggesting he's satisfied with steps the country is taking to prosecute some of those involved, while claiming that "nobody so far has pointed directly a finger at the future king of Saudi Arabia."

A U.N. expert has called for an investigation into his alleged involvement in the killing at the Saudi consulate in Turkey last year. U.S. intelligence officials concluded that bin Salman must have at least known of the plot.

4:30 p.m.

President Donald Trump says Jimmy Carter is a "nice man" but he was "terrible" as America's president.

Trump is hitting back at Carter after he was asked about Carter's comment that Trump is president only because of Russian interference. Carter commented during a human rights discussion in Virginia, but offered no evidence for his statement.

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Trump says he was elected because he worked "harder and smarter" than his opponent, Democrat Hillary Clinton.

4:25 p.m.

President Donald Trump says he'd "feel very comfortable" crossing the border into North Korea if he meets Kim Jong Un (gihm jung oon) at the heavily-fortified Korean Demilitarized Zone separating the North from South Korea.

Trump was asked about the prospect during a news conference in Japan marking the end of a Group of 20 summit.

Trump earlier Saturday invited Kim by tweet to meet him at the border, "just to shake his hand and say Hello(?)" It would be their third face-to-face.

Trump says he'd "have no problem" becoming the first U.S. president to cross the border while he's there.

Trump and Kim last met in Vietnam in February, but that summit collapsed with no progress.

4:20 p.m.

President Donald Trump says he's holding off on new China tariffs for the "time being" and the U.S. and China will restart stalled trade talks.

Trump made the announcement Saturday in Japan following a lengthy meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping (shee jihm-peeng). He says U.S. tariffs already in place against Chinese imports will remain, but that new tariffs he's threatened to slap on billions worth of other Chinese goods will not be put in place.

Trump says "we're going to work with China where we left off."

Talks broke off after several rounds of negotiations after the U.S. accused China of renegeing on agreements it had already made.

4:15 p.m.

President Donald Trump says he may be meeting with North Korea's Kim Jong Un (gihm jung oon) on Sunday during a visit to the demilitarized zone with South Korea. But he says nothing has been set just yet.

Trump offered the update during a news conference as he wrapped up his appearance at the Group of 20 summit in Japan hours after tweeting his invitation.

Trump says Kim has responded to the offer and was "very receptive" to the idea. He says: "We may be meeting with Chairman Kim... we'll find out."

It's unclear whether Trump was referring to a private communication or public comments from North's First Vice Foreign Minister, Choe Son Hui, who called the prospect of a meeting a "very interesting suggestion."

Abe's G-20 show eclipsed by Trump-China trade talks, tweets

By ELAINE KURTENBACH and FOSTER KLUG Associated Press

OSAKA, Japan (AP) — The Group of 20 summit in Osaka ended Saturday with lofty language from powerful world leaders, but it was eclipsed by U.S. President Donald Trump, who agreed to restart trade talks with China and extended a surprise invitation for North Korea's leader to meet him Sunday.

Despite the focus on Trump, the summit's host, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, declared the gathering a success.

"The G-20 nations, as the countries that lead the world economy, have a responsibility to squarely face global problems and to come up with solutions through frank dialogue," Abe said in concluding the meeting.

"Now, with this 'Osaka Declaration,' we should try to tenaciously find, not the differences, but common ground among us, and, we hope, to continue our effort to sustain global economic growth," he said.

In striving for common ground, however, the summit declaration finessed differences and yielded no major new initiatives.

Still, German Chancellor Angela Merkel welcomed the fact that the leaders managed to hold the line on

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the issue of climate change, with 19 countries committing themselves to the Paris climate accord.

Only the United States dissented, reiterating Trump's decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement "because it disadvantages American workers and taxpayers."

Merkel told reporters that "this process cannot be turned around." She said some leaders in Osaka indicated they were willing to up commitments to curb greenhouse gases by aiming for "net zero" emissions by 2050.

Merkel also lauded the deal between the EU and the Latin American bloc MERCOSUR — also struck on the G-20 sidelines — to create the world's largest free trade zone after 20 years of negotiations. The agreement includes a reference to the goals of the Paris accord.

Japan had pushed for the Osaka summit to become a landmark for progress on environmental issues, including tackling the global problem of plastic waste and recommitting to efforts to counter climate change.

Leaders said they'd "look into a wide range of clean technologies and approaches, including smart cities, ecosystem and community based approaches."

The G-20 leaders have long sought to present a united front in promoting open markets and calling for smart policies to fend off threats to global economic growth. But the schisms over such issues as protectionism and migration are straining efforts to forge the usual consensus on a broad array of policy approaches and geopolitical issues.

The summit declaration did not take aim at protectionism but included a call for free, fair, non-discriminatory and open markets.

"Weren't we originally seeking agreement on these principles? We need to go back to the original point so that we can remember what it was we were initially seeking," Abe said. "This time, we managed to go back to this original point to come to agreeing on these important principles."

Much of the spotlight of the two-day meeting focused on Trump.

Using Twitter, he raised a stir by inviting North Korea's Kim Jong Un to shake hands during a visit the he plans to make to the heavily armed Demilitarized Zone between the Koreas on Sunday. "If Chairman Kim of North Korea sees this, I would meet him at the Border/DMZ just to shake his hand and say Hello(!)!"

North Korea's First Vice Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui responded by saying it was a "very interesting suggestion," and the meeting, if realized, would serve as "another meaningful occasion in further deepening the personal relations between the two leaders and advancing the bilateral relations."

She said North Korea still hadn't received an official proposal for the meeting from the United States.

Trump has at times found himself at odds with other leaders in such international events. China, meanwhile, has sought support for defending global trade agreements against Trump's "America First" stance in gatherings like the G-20.

At the outset of their meeting, Trump told Xi he wants to "even it up in respect to trade," and that he thought it would be very easy to do.

The two sides have levied billions of dollars' worth of tariffs on each other's products, and talks on resolving the longstanding issues had stalled in May.

Afterward, Trump said the talks were "back on track." He said he had decided to hold off on imposing more tariffs on Chinese exports, while China planned to buy more American farm products.

China's official Xinhua News Agency said Xi and Trump had agreed to restart trade talks "on the basis of equality and mutual respect."

It's unclear, however, if they have overcome the obstacles that brought the talks to a halt earlier.

"I think that realistically that the two sides, there are substantive issues that remain to be resolved — subsidies, state owned enterprise, reform, industrial policy in China — that go to the core of China's economic system," said Jacob Parker, vice president of U.S.-China Business Council China Operations.

"These are not issues that are going to be resolved quickly or overnight. And I think we have to expect that both sides are going to have to compromise a little bit. They can't let perfect be the enemy of good," Parker said.

Holding the summit in Osaka allowed Abe to perhaps raise his popularity among constituents in this

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manufacturing hub ahead of an election for the upper house of parliament in July. Abe's ruling Liberal Democratic Party has suffered several setbacks in by-elections and his long tenure as prime minister is raising questions about who will succeed him.

While he upstaged his host, Trump did make a point of attending meetings like one early Saturday on women's empowerment, where his daughter and adviser Ivanka Trump spoke.

She and others noted that the world economy would get a boost of up to \$28 trillion by 2025 if women were on an equal economic footing and described improving the status of women as "smart economic and defense policy."

The G-20 comprises Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, Germany, France, Britain, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Canada, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United States and the European Union. Also attending the summit were the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Guinea, Senegal, Singapore and Vietnam.

Associated Press journalists Kaori Hitomi and Yves Dam Van in Osaka and Sam McNeil in Beijing contributed to this report.

Moderate 2020 Dems test if Biden stumbles provide opening

By NICHOLAS RICCARDI Associated Press

These Democrats are issuing dire warnings about the prohibitive expense of big-ticket liberal promises. They bemoan that the party is ignoring politicians who found success in areas that supported President Donald Trump. One even echoes the Republican talking point that Democrats are becoming socialists.

Yet the moderates competing for the Democratic presidential nomination are running into a wall: Joe Biden.

The former vice president is the most prominent centrist in the race, eating up the political oxygen with his near universal name recognition. But his troublesome moments in Thursday's debate are prompting some of his rivals to assess whether there's room for them to establish a stronger foothold in the moderate lane.

"As front-runners like Biden stumble ... it creates more opportunities for Michael in this race," said Craig Hughes, an adviser to Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet, one of the two dozen Democrats running for president.

Biden is managing the fallout from a stinging attack launched on the debate stage this week by Kamala Harris. The California senator blasted him for his recent comments about once working with segregationists and his past opposition to mandated school busing. The critique seemed to catch Biden off guard, leaving him appearing defensive as he struggled for an appropriate response.

He appeared at an event on Friday sponsored by the Rev. Jesse Jackson where Biden noted his "respect" for Harris and pledged to be a "president who stands against racism."

Biden has already weathered a series of controversies on issues such as abortion and race that animate the Democratic base without losing his early front-runner status. But some of his rivals sense vulnerability and would like to challenge his position as the leading antidote to the unabashedly liberal candidacies of Sens. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts.

Beyond Bennet, the moderate pack includes Montana Gov. Steve Bullock, former Maryland Rep. John Delaney, former Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper and Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar. They've all argued against expensive proposals such as free college or single-payer health care, warning that those ideas are impractical and wouldn't resonate with voters in the more politically competitive areas that they've represented.

Some made that case again on the debate stage this week but didn't generate the buzz of fresher-faced newcomers like former Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julian Castro or have breakout performances like Harris.

"The voters don't want them at all," Cenk Uygur, of the liberal media group The Young Turks, said of moderate candidates. "If moderates had a prayer of winning, Klobuchar would be in the top, Michael Bennet would be in the top. Instead they're at nearly zero percent."

Even if he continues to stumble, Biden isn't likely to bleed support quickly enough to free up some of

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his voters and media attention for another, more pragmatic alternative. To qualify for the third debate in September, candidates will have to poll at 2% in at least four polls and collect donations from 130,000 people — a benchmark that favors candidates who can build a passionate online following and that is likely to be impossible to meet for many centrist contenders.

Bullock couldn't even meet less stringent thresholds to qualify for the first round of debates, and he spent the two nights holding town halls in Iowa and New Hampshire and appearing on the late-night TV show "The Colbert Report." His campaign was happy at the attention he got but remains stunned by the Democratic National Committee's debate rules.

"The people being pushed out aren't necessarily moderates, but pragmatists who have a history of getting things done," said Matt McKenna, a Bullock adviser. "Who knows if that was their intention but that certainly is what happened."

Hickenlooper was on the debate stage, where he continued to castigate the Democratic Party as opening itself up to an attack as being socialist for backing programs like the Green New Deal and single-payer health care. Even though Hickenlooper didn't have a breakout performance, a spokeswoman, Lauren Hitt, said the campaign pulled in triple its daily average in donors after the debate. But, she stressed, there needs to be more.

"It's correct that if moderates want to see moderate options on the debate stage beyond Biden, that they will need to become small-dollar donors," Hitt said.

One candidate who has more centrist rhetoric and had a successful debate night was South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg, who doesn't embrace the moderate label but could conceivably occupy that space in the upper echelon of candidates. But Buttigieg has struggled to appeal to black voters, who polls show are more moderate than the party's white voters, and he is dealing with the aftermath of a fatal shooting of a black man by a white city police officer.

Analysts note that Buttigieg, who argued against immediately moving to single-payer at Thursday's debate, shows the importance of changing the way moderates are discussed in Democratic politics — traditionally as white politicians who represent conservative-leaning areas.

Matt Bennett of Third Way, a group that supports centrist Democrats, noted that black candidates such as Harris and New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker can also espouse more moderate approaches, though they haven't embraced that label during this campaign.

Simon Rosenberg of the New Democratic Network said the debates revealed that the fault line in the primary may not be liberal versus moderates, but generational. Sanders, a self-professed democratic socialist and one year older than Biden, defended the former vice president against attacks from younger politicians that his time had passed. Rosenberg argued that Sanders and Warren embrace the left-middle divide that has obsessed the party since the 1980s but the younger candidates on stage did not.

"I don't think Democrats are coming to this election with ideological preferences," Rosenberg said. "I think they're looking for strong leadership."

Female candidates challenge electability question in debates

By JOCELYN NOVECK and JUANA SUMMERS Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — For months, the names of white men have sat at the top of early Democratic presidential primary polls. On the debate stage this week, the half-dozen women in the field offered up an alternative: themselves.

They did so with different tactics and styles but a shared goal: shaking up assumptions about who is electable in a race for a job that has only been held by men.

While it's too early in the Democratic nominating process to know if they succeeded on that front, some of the women emerged as dominant forces on the debate stage, driving the policy discussions and insisting on being heard on issues despite the crowded field. Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren and California Sen. Kamala Harris led the way and were widely seen as among the top performers.

"Over the past two nights, women won each debate and showed that this race is not over," said Stepha-

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nie Schriock, president of Emily's List, the largest national organization devoted to electing women. "They were great debaters, compelling storytellers and effective at making their case and getting in the fight when they had a point to make."

Of course, winning one debate is far different than winning the nomination or the general election. Hillary Clinton, for example, dominated most of her debate showdowns throughout the 2016 campaign, including her three faceoffs with Donald Trump, but still lost the election.

For some Democrats, Clinton's loss was a searing experience that has prompted questions about whether the country is ready to elect a female president — or whether the party should even risk testing that proposition in next year's high-stakes election.

In her two White House campaigns, Clinton was always the only woman on the debate stage. This time around, the female candidates had company — a history-making three women on stage each night. On Wednesday, Warren was joined by Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar and Rep. Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii. On Thursday, Harris debated alongside Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York and the author Marianne Williamson. The debate's moderators also included two women, NBC News' Rachel Maddow and Savannah Guthrie.

Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, said she is among those who have heard voters raise doubts about whether Democrats should nominate a woman in 2020 following Clinton's loss. Following the debates, she said she was hopeful that narrative might change.

"This question of electability maybe gets shaken up a little bit as a result of these past two nights," Walsh said.

There were notable moments for many of the women on stage. Gillibrand focused her message on women's rights and family issues, doubling down on her strategy of running as an unabashed feminist. Klobuchar's standout moment came when a male rival portrayed himself as the field's most ardent defender of abortion rights.

"I want to say there are three women up here who fought pretty hard for a woman's right to choose," Klobuchar said as the audience erupted in applause.

Yet it was Warren and Harris who rose to the top of the pack.

Warren stood at center stage on Wednesday, reflecting her standing as the night's highest polling candidate. Her liberal policy positions also took center stage, driving much of the discussion throughout the night. Warren consciously avoided squabbling with her rivals, seeking to project the strength of a leading candidate.

Harris burst through on night two with a striking exchange with former Vice President Joe Biden, who has led early polling throughout the year. She challenged Biden vigorously, and in personal terms, over his past positions on school busing and his comments citing his work with segregationist senators as an example of a bygone air of civility.

The exchange was not the result of a moderator's question. It was a moment Harris seized on herself, breaking in after author Williamson described how the average American was "woefully undereducated" about the history of race in the United States.

"As the only black person on this stage, I'd like to speak on the issue of race," Harris said. The crowd fell silent as she then recounted being bused to a desegregated school as a child.

"By weaving her personal experience into the broader attack, she could go after Biden without coming off as petty or inappropriate," said Amanda Litman, a co-founder of Run For Something who worked on Clinton's 2016 campaign. "She claimed her space and made incredible use of it."

The strong overall female presence in these debates may have a resonance well beyond what was visible onstage, said Erin Cassese, a specialist in women and politics at the University of Delaware.

Research shows, Cassese said, that "when women run, there's a role model effect, other women pay attention, they're more engaged in the campaign, and they may develop political ambitions."

She added: "It's less obvious because it's not what we're seeing onstage, but it's about how people are connecting to the optics of it."

Noveck reported from New York.

Trump dismisses Carter's attacks on his legitimacy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump on Saturday dismissed former President Jimmy Carter's swipe at the legitimacy of his presidency, calling it nothing more than a "Democrat talking point," while offering his own digs at the 94-year-old Carter.

Speaking to reporters at a press conference in Japan, Trump said he was surprised by the former president's comments alleging that Russian interference in the 2016 election was responsible for putting him in the White House. And he punched back — though with a somewhat muted response, at least for Trump.

"Look, he was a nice man. He was a terrible president. He's a Democrat. And it's a typical talking point. He's loyal to the Democrats. And I guess you should be," Trump told reporters, adding that, "as everybody now understands, I won not because of Russia, not because of anybody but myself."

Carter, speaking during a discussion on human rights at a resort in Leesburg, Virginia on Friday, had said there was "no doubt that the Russians did interfere" in 2016.

And he alleged that that interference, "though not yet quantified, if fully investigated would show that Trump didn't actually win the election in 2016. He lost the election and he was put into office because the Russians interfered on his behalf."

The U.S. intelligence community asserted in a 2017 report that Russia had worked to help Trump during the election and to undermine the candidacy of Democratic opponent Hillary Clinton. But the intelligence agencies did not assess whether that interference had affected the election or contributed to Trump's victory.

Trump, however, insisted during his press conference marking the end of a Group of 20 summit in Osaka, that he had won because he'd worked harder and smarter than Clinton. And he claimed that he'd "felt badly" for Carter because of the way he'd "been trashed within his own party."

"He's been badly trashed," said Trump. "He's like the forgotten president. And I understand why they say that. He was not a good president."

N. Korea says Trump's offer to meet Kim 'very interesting'

By HYUNG-JIN KIM Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea said Saturday President Donald Trump's offer to meet leader Kim Jong Un at the Korean Demilitarized Zone is a "very interesting suggestion," brightening prospects for a third face-to-face meeting between the two leaders.

The North's First Vice Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui said that the meeting, if realized, would serve as "another meaningful occasion in further deepening the personal relations between the two leaders and advancing the bilateral relations."

Choe still said that North Korea hasn't received an official proposal for the DMZ meeting from the United States. Her comments suggested that North Korea is willing to accept Trump's idea if it gets a formal U.S. offer for the meeting, according to some observers in Seoul.

Choe's statement was carried via the North's official Korean Central News Agency.

Earlier Saturday, Trump invited Kim to shake hands during his planned visit to the DMZ, which has served as a de-facto border between the Koreas since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War. Trump is scheduled to fly to South Korea later Saturday for a two-day trip after attending the G-20 summit in Osaka, Japan.

Trump tweeted that "If Chairman Kim of North Korea sees this, I would meet him at the Border/DMZ just to shake his hand and say Hello(?)"

"All I did is put out a feeler if you'd like to meet," Trump said later of the invitation, adding that he's not sure of Kim's whereabouts.

Trump and Kim have met twice since Kim entered talks with the United States early last year to deal away his advancing nuclear arsenal in return for political and economic benefits.

Their first summit in Singapore in June last year ended with Kim's promise to work toward complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. But it lacked any specific timetable and roadmap. In Singapore, the two leaders also agreed to improve bilateral relations and build lasting peace on the peninsula.

They met again in Vietnam in February, but that second summit collapsed due to disputes over how much sanctions relief North Korea should win in return for dismantling its main nuclear complex — a limited denuclearization step.

Kim has since asked Trump to work out acceptable proposals to salvage the negotiations by the end of this year. U.S. officials said sanctions on North Korea would stay in place until North Korea takes firmer steps toward nuclear disarmament.

Talks of a revival of diplomacy have flared again since Kim and Trump recently exchanged personal letters. Kim called Trump's letter "excellent" while Trump described Kim's as "beautiful."

The United States and North Korea are in a technical state of war because the 1950-53 Korean War ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. About 28,500 American soldiers are deployed in South Korea as deterrence against potential aggression from North Korea.

Roberts' Supreme Court defies easy political labels

By MARK SHERMAN and JESSICA GRESKO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Just hours after Chief Justice John Roberts handed Republicans a huge victory that protects even the most extreme partisan electoral districts from federal court challenge, critics blasted him as worthy of being impeached, a politician who should run for office and a traitor.

But the attacks came from President Donald Trump's allies and their anger was directed not at the Supreme Court's partisan gerrymandering ruling, but at the day's other big decision to keep a citizenship question off the 2020 census, at least for now. Trump tweeted from Japan that the census citizenship decision was "ridiculous."

What good is a high court conservative majority fortified by two Trump appointees, the critics seemed to be saying, if Roberts is not prepared to use it?

That's not how Roberts would characterize the court he now leads in name and as the justice closest to the center of a group otherwise divided between conservatives and liberals. He has talked repeatedly about the need to counter perceptions that the justices are just politicians in black robes, beholden to the president who appointed them.

The flurry of action came at the end of a Supreme Court term in which the court welcomed a new justice, Brett Kavanaugh, who narrowly survived the most tumultuous confirmation hearings in nearly 30 years. The justices now begin a three-month summer recess.

The court seem determined to maintain as low a profile as possible once Kavanaugh joined the bench in early October, finding a variety of ways to keep hot-button topics like abortion, guns, immigration and gay rights, that might divide conservatives from liberals, off the term's calendar.

"This tactic may have been an effort to keep things relatively quiet" following the Kavanaugh nomination, said Josh Blackman, a law professor at the South Texas College of Law in Houston.

But one result of putting off some major decisions in Kavanaugh's first term is a docket crammed with guns, immigration, gay rights and probably abortion in a session that begins in the fall and will come to a head in June 2020, amid the presidential election campaign.

So far there is only a partial answer to the big question of how far and fast the court will move to the right now that the more conservative Roberts had taken the place of Justice Anthony Kennedy, who retired last year, as the swing justice.

In the case of partisan gerrymandering, Roberts closed the federal courthouse door to lawsuits, a decision that mainly benefits Republicans whose districting plans had been challenged in several states. On the death penalty, the five conservatives appear much less willing to entertain calls for last-minute reprieves from execution. And in two cases the court divided along ideological lines in overturning precedents that had been on the books for more than 30 years.

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But Roberts was unwilling to join the conservatives to allow the citizenship question to proceed, although it is not yet clear whether the administration will continue pressing the legal case for the question. The reaction to the census ruling was swift. Former Trump aide Sebastian Gorka called Roberts "a traitor to Constitution." American Conservative Union president Matt Schlapp called for Roberts' impeachment. Fox News host Laura Ingraham tweeted that "Roberts should quit and run for office."

The chief justice also declined to be the fifth conservative vote to overturn two past high court decisions about the power of federal agencies, and joined the liberals in ruling for an Alabama death row inmate who suffers from dementia. In emergency appeals, Roberts was the fifth vote to keep Trump from requiring asylum seekers to enter the country at established checkpoints and the fifth vote to prevent Louisiana abortion clinic regulations from taking effect.

Twenty-one decisions, or nearly a third of all the cases the court heard since October, were by 5-4 or 5-3 votes. But of those, only seven united the conservatives against dissenting liberals. In 10 others, the cohesive bloc of liberals attracted the vote of a conservative justice.

The lack of high-profile cases undoubtedly contributed to the relatively small number of ideologically divided outcomes, said David Cole, legal director for the American Civil Liberties Union, which was on the winning side of the citizenship case and the losing side of the gerrymandering one.

Cole said the 5-4 decisions that cross ideological lines "send a message that this is a court that is not just determined by partisan ideology, but is applying law."

Roberts sought to reinforce that perception of the court in comments in November, speaking out after Trump called a judge who ruled against his asylum policy an "Obama judge." Roberts responded: "We do not have Obama judges or Trump judges, Bush judges or Clinton judges." Commenting on the day before Thanksgiving, he said an "independent judiciary is something we should all be thankful for."

It could be several years before the impact of a more conservative court, assuming no changes in membership, becomes clear.

But one fear among the liberal justices, and liberals more generally, is a push to restrict if not overturn abortion rights the Supreme Court first declared in the *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973. At least one conservative justice has the decision in his sights. Justice Clarence Thomas at one point this term labeled it as "notoriously incorrect."

The first term of any new justice often has fewer big cases than normal, but the court's desire to stay away from controversy was heightened by Kavanaugh's difficult confirmation following allegations he sexually assaulted a woman when they were both in high school. He denied doing anything improper. When he arrived at the court, his colleagues seemed to welcome him warmly. Justice Elena Kagan, his neighbor on the bench, joked with the new justice and made a point of shaking his hand at the end of his first day of arguments.

Kavanaugh's parents were often in the courtroom, especially when their only child announced an opinion.

The new justice "stuck pretty close to the chief in a lot of cases," said Supreme Court advocate Nicole Saharsky. Kavanaugh was a confident, straightforward questioner during arguments and didn't seem to be "making waves in any significant respect," Saharsky said. At the same time, she said it's hard to tell much about a justice based on only a year's worth of data.

One surprise was that Kavanaugh and Justice Neil Gorsuch, two Trump appointees, who have known each other since high school, found themselves on opposite sides of 18 decisions. They voted together, however, in the biggest cases on gerrymandering and the citizenship question.

Thousands gather at Stonewall 50 years after LGBTQ uprising

By ALI SWENSON and JENNIFER PELTZ Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Thousands of people converged Friday on the Stonewall Inn for the 50th anniversary of the rebellion that catalyzed a movement for LGBTQ liberation, marking the milestone with celebrity performances, speeches and personal reflections.

People from New York and afar came to take photos and share in the legacy of the gay bar where pa-

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trons resisted a police raid, sparking protests and longer-term organizing that made the cause considerably more visible.

"Fifty years ago, people stood up for their rights, and look where we're at now. We've got flags all over the city," said Richard Walker, 58, an airline worker from New York. "I'm getting goosebumps just really thinking about it."

With the modern incarnation of the Stonewall Inn as the focal point, the day's celebrations included music, speeches and an evening rally. Lady Gaga, Whoopi Goldberg, Alicia Keys, drag performers and other artists at the advocacy organization Pride Live's Stonewall Day Concert addressed a crowd that stretched for blocks on a nearly 90-degree afternoon.

"This community has fought and continued to fight a war of acceptance, a war of tolerance," Lady Gaga said. "You are the definition of courage."

Robert Beard traveled from Dallas to attend the Stonewall anniversary events a couple of years after coming out in his 50s.

"I just kind of hid who I was for my whole life, and then within the last two years, I've been going through this kind of cathartic experience of accepting myself," said Beard, 53, who had been married and fathered children. "Just to be here with all these people is pretty amazing."

Jocelyn Burrell isn't gay, but she made her way to the Stonewall Inn because she was struck by how welcoming it was when she stopped in there years ago, and she feels a sense of common cause with its place in history.

"Just like we fought — black people fought — for civil rights, I feel I should support other people who fight for civil rights," she said.

On Friday evening, New York Mayor Bill de Blasio joined a grassroots rally in front of Stonewall Inn, saying "Happy Pride, everybody!" to thousands of cheering people including activists, organizers and politicians. The Democratic mayor called those who were arrested in 1969 "brave," setting the stage for future LGBTQ rights.

In the crowd was Emma Gonzalez, who survived last year's high school massacre in Parkland, Florida, and is a bisexual gun-control advocate. Also there was Barbara Poma, owner of the Pulse gay nightclub in Coral Springs, Florida, the scene of one of the worst mass shootings in U.S. history.

Friday's events were kicking off a big weekend of Pride festivities in New York and elsewhere. In New York, Sunday's huge WorldPride parade — and an alternative march intended as a less corporate commemoration of Stonewall — also will swing past the bar.

Cities around the world began celebrating Pride on Friday. Participants in a march in the Philippines went by the presidential palace in Manila, waving placards as they marked the 25th year since the first such gathering.

The Stonewall Inn is now a landmark and part of the Stonewall National Monument, but in 1969, it was part of a gay scene that was known, yet not open. At the time, showing same-sex affection or dressing in a way deemed gender-inappropriate could get people arrested, and bars had lost liquor licenses for serving LGBTQ customers.

The police raid on the bar began early the morning of June 28, 1969. The nightspot was unlicensed, and the officers had been assigned to stop any illegal alcohol sales.

Patrons and people who converged on the bar on Christopher Street resisted, hurling objects and at points scuffling with the officers.

Protests followed over several more days. A year later, LGBTQ New Yorkers marked the anniversary of the riot with the Christopher Street Liberation Day March. Thousands proudly paraded through a city where, at the time, LGBTQ people were largely expected to stay in the shadows.

The Stonewall Inn itself closed not long after the raid. The current Stonewall Inn dates to the early 1990s. "We understand we're the innkeepers of history," said current co-owner Stacy Lentz. "We really feel like the fire that started at Stonewall in 1969 is not done. The battleground has just shifted."

Associated Press videojournalist Ted Shaffrey contributed to this report. Find complete AP Stonewall anniversary coverage here: <https://apnews.com/Stonewallat50>

Police arrest man suspected of killing Utah college student

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A Utah college student missing 11 days was abducted and killed and her remains burned in the yard of a man now facing aggravated murder and other charges, authorities said Friday.

Salt Lake City Police Chief Mike Brown, who became emotional at times during a morning press conference, said Ayoola A. Ajayi will be charged with aggravated murder, kidnapping, obstruction of justice and desecration of a body in the death of 23-year-old Mackenzie Lueck.

He was arrested without incident Friday morning by a SWAT team.

Ajayi, 31, is an information technology worker who attended college on and off but never earned a degree and was briefly in the Army National Guard but didn't complete basic training.

He doesn't have a criminal record, according to online court information, but a northern Utah police department said he was accused of a rape in 2014. Police investigated but the alleged victim, an adult woman, declined to pursue charges, North Park police said in a news release.

Brown said telling the missing woman's parents in Southern California was "one of the most difficult phone calls I've ever made." Her parents are "devastated and heartbroken by this news."

Lueck disappeared on June 17, after she returned from a trip home for her grandmother's funeral and took a Lyft ride from the airport to a park north of Salt Lake City. She was last seen apparently willingly meeting someone there at about 3 a.m.

Her text conversation with Ajayi was her last communication and phone location data shows them both at the park within a minute of each other, Brown said.

"This was the same time as Mackenzie's phone stopped receiving any further data or location services," he said.

He declined to say whether or how exactly they knew each other. Ajayi has acknowledged texting with Lueck around 6 p.m. on June 16, but denied talking to her later, knowing what she looked like or having seen any online profile for her — despite having several photos, including a profile picture, Brown said.

The police chief said investigators were seeking to determine if others were involved. A second person was questioned at the time of his arrest and later released, Brown said.

Police have not discussed a motive for the killing, or specified a cause of death. A judge ordered Ajayi held without bail. It was not known if he has an attorney to speak on his behalf. He had not returned previous messages from The Associated Press prior to his arrest.

After discovering that Ajayi was the last person Lueck communicated with, police searched his home on Wednesday and Thursday. Police Thursday described him as a "person of interest."

In his backyard, they said they found a "fresh dig area," and charred items that belonged to Lueck. They also found burned human remains that matched her DNA profile, Brown said.

Ajayi has worked in information technology for several companies including Dell and Goldman Sachs, according to his LinkedIn page. Goldman Sachs confirmed he worked as a contract employee for less than a year at the Salt Lake City office ending in August 2018. Dell said Ajayi had worked there but didn't provide his dates of employment.

Ajayi also appeared to have pursued employment in modeling with a bio page on a website called modelmanagement.com. Court records show he is divorced.

Lueck was a part-time senior at the University of Utah studying kinesiology and pre-nursing, and was expected to graduate in Spring 2020. She had been a student since 2014 and had an off-campus apartment. The university offered counseling services to any students or staffers affected by her death.

She is from El Segundo in the Los Angeles area and flew to California for a funeral before returning to Salt Lake City, police said. Her family reported her missing on June 20 and became more concerned after she missed a planned flight back to Los Angeles last weekend.

Lueck's uncle, who did not provide his name at the police press conference, held back tears as he read a statement from her family thanking the investigators for their work.

"They're also grateful to her community, her friends and others around the nation who have supported this investigation," he said.

She was a bubbly, nurturing person who helped others and took care of animals like guinea pigs, hedgehogs and cats, friends have said. They did not respond to requests for comment after the arrest was announced.

Lueck's sorority, Alpha Chi Omega, said in a statement the group is grieving her loss and hoping the members closest to her can find comfort as they remember her lasting impact on her loved ones.

Associated Press writers Brady McCombs and Morgan Smith contributed to this report.

US judge blocks Indiana 2nd trimester abortion procedure ban

By TOM DAVIES Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A federal judge blocked an Indiana law that would ban a second-trimester abortion procedure on Friday, just days before the law was set to come into force.

The order putting the Indiana law on hold was released hours after the U.S. Supreme Court declined to revive a similar law in Alabama that sought to ban dilation and evacuation abortions.

The law passed by Indiana's Republican-dominated Legislature this spring calls the procedure "dismemberment abortion." It was set to become effective on July 1.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana sued on behalf of two doctors who perform dilation and evacuation abortions. Under the law, a doctor who performs the procedure could face a felony charge, punishable by up to six years in prison.

Indiana's attorneys maintained the state had a valid role in limiting types of abortion procedures, citing a 2007 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that upheld a federal law banning the method.

ACLU attorneys argued that the ban would put a "substantial and unwarranted burden on women's ability to obtain second-trimester, pre-viability abortions."

In granting the preliminary injunction that blocked the law, U.S. District Judge Sarah Evans Barker wrote that it "prohibits physicians from utilizing the most common, safest, often most cost effective, and best understood method of second trimester abortion, requiring them instead to resort to alternatives that are medically riskier, more costly, less reliable, and in some instances simply unavailable, while accomplishing little more than expressing hostility towards the constitutionally fundamental right of women to control their own reproductive lives."

Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill said in a statement he expected to appeal the ruling.

"I continue to believe that Indiana has a compelling interest in protecting the value and dignity of fetal life by banning a particularly brutal and inhumane procedure," Hill said.

The U.S. Supreme Court in May rejected Indiana's appeal of a lower court ruling that blocked the state's ban on abortion based on gender, race or disability. The court, however, upheld a portion of the 2016 law signed by then-Gov. Mike Pence requiring burial or cremation of fetal remains after an abortion.

Four other anti-abortion laws adopted in Indiana since 2013 have been blocked by federal courts, according to the ACLU.

Chris Charbonneau, the CEO at Planned Parenthood of Indiana and Kentucky, said the latest Indiana law wrongly waded into the details of medical decisions that should be left to doctors.

"I think the Legislature has not, until recently, been serious about passing something that will be upheld," Charbonneau said. "I think they're passing these things as red meat to the right-wing base to make it look like they are actually doing something."

The decision from Barker, who was nominated as a judge by President Ronald Reagan, comes just weeks after she allowed an abortion clinic to open in South Bend. The Indiana State Department of Health had denied the operator a clinic license, saying it had not provided requested safety documentation.

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During a hearing this month, Barker questioned why the state would force women seeking a second-trimester abortion to undergo "highly risky" alternative procedures, such as prematurely inducing labor or injecting fatal drugs into the fetus.

Federal courts have blocked similar laws in several states, including Kentucky and Ohio this spring, but Indiana abortion opponents were hopeful an increasingly conservative U.S. Supreme Court could eventually uphold such bans.

The Indiana measure signed by Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb would make it illegal for doctors to use medical instruments such as clamps, forceps and scissors to remove a fetus from the womb except to save the pregnant woman's life or prevent serious health risk.

Indiana Solicitor General Thomas Fisher said legislators wanted the ban "because they think the procedure is unethical."

The anti-abortion group Indiana Right to Life urged an appeal of Barker's ruling.

"It's disgusting that the abortion industry can simply overturn a law they dislike by filing a lawsuit," said Mike Fichter, the group's president and CEO. "Dismemberment abortions are painful and barbaric. No baby deserves this horrific death sentence."

Indiana lawmakers didn't go as far as those in Louisiana, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi and Ohio, where bills were enacted barring abortion once there's a detectable fetal heartbeat, as early as the sixth week of pregnancy. Missouri's governor signed a bill approving an eight-week ban on abortion, with exceptions only for medical emergencies. Alabama outlawed virtually all abortions, even in cases of rape or incest. Those bans haven't taken effect, and all are expected to face legal challenges.

The dilation and evacuation procedure accounted for 27, or 0.35 percent, of the 7,778 abortions performed in Indiana during 2017, according to an Indiana State Department of Health report.

Biden defends past civil rights record after Harris attack

By SARA BURNETT and WILL WEISSERT Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Joe Biden strongly defended his civil rights record on Friday, pledging to be a "president who stands against racism" and defiantly dismissing any suggestions otherwise.

Speaking to the Rev. Jesse Jackson's Rainbow PUSH Coalition, the white former vice president was working to repair the damage from a blistering attack from California Sen. Kamala Harris, the lone black woman in the 2020 presidential race. During Thursday's presidential debate, Harris criticized Biden for recently highlighting his decades-old work with segregationist senators and his opposition to public school busing during the 1970s — creating a dramatic and deeply personal breakout moment.

"I heard, and I listened to, and I respect Sen. Harris," Biden said. "But we all know that 30 seconds to 60 seconds on a campaign debate exchange can't do justice to a lifetime commitment to civil rights."

Biden has surged to the top of the Democratic pack arguing that he's best positioned to defeat President Donald Trump because he can build a broad coalition of support. Appearances such as the one with Jackson — his onetime rival in the 1988 Democratic presidential primary — will signal whether Harris' attack will chip into his support among African Americans. He acknowledged the critical role of black voters and labor unions on Friday, saying, "Y'all are the ones that brung me to the dance."

Biden pushed back against some of Harris' specific criticisms, including her argument that he once opposed busing. He said he was more opposed to federal intervention in busing than the practice itself.

"I never, never, never, ever opposed voluntary busing," Biden said, adding that he supported federal legislation to "address root causes of segregation in our schools" and that he was always "in favor of using federal authority to overcome state-initiated segregation" — even in bygone days when it wasn't popular.

But even while defending his own record, Biden still tempted controversy. He said he envisioned a society in which everyone realizes the "kid in the hoodie might be the next poet laureate and not a gangbanger."

New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, a 2020 Democratic presidential rival, challenged Biden on his word choice, saying in a tweet that the issue was about more than just a hoodie.

"It's about a culture that sees a problem with a kid wearing a hoodie in the first place. Our nominee needs

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to have the language to talk about race in a far more constructive way," said Booker, who had pushed back against comments made by Biden a week earlier in which he nostalgically referenced the "civility" he maintained during his time in the Senate with two segregationist Democrats in the 1970s despite their vast distance in ideology.

California attorney Tom McInerney signed up to be on Biden's national finance team but said he notified the campaign this month that he was withdrawing his support. He pointed to what he called repeated missteps, including Biden's comments on segregationists and the former vice president's recent reversal on the Hyde Amendment, a long-standing congressional ban on using federal health care money to pay for abortions. His reversal — he now says he opposes the amendment — came after rivals and women's rights group blasted him for affirming through campaign aides that he still supported the decades-old budget provision.

"I have tremendous respect for the vice president. However, I just became increasingly troubled by his comments," McInerney said Friday. "It just seems like he wasn't thinking this through."

Biden's campaign offered no immediate comment on McInerney's withdrawal.

Also during Friday's event, Biden leaned heavily on being Barack Obama's vice president, something he didn't do as much during the debate, when Harris' relentless criticism often left him flustered and seemingly unsure of what to say.

"My president gets much too little credit for all that he did. He was one of the great presidents of the United States of America, and I'm tired of hearing about what he didn't do," Biden said of Obama.

Sylvia Chapman, 60, of Chicago, attended Biden's speech and said Thursday's confrontation between Harris and Biden was "just a few minutes of talk."

"You have to look at the whole picture, not just one chapter out of a book," said Chapman, who is black and is the president of a union local in Chicago. She said she's undecided about who to support in 2020, but Biden is among the top of her choices, along with Sens. Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren and Harris.

Patricia Ousley, 69, a black retired state employee from the Chicago suburb of South Holland, cheered loudly when Biden told the crowd Obama doesn't get the credit he deserves. She says Biden's experience working alongside Obama is a big reason she may support him in 2020: "I love that."

Weissert reported from Washington. Associated Press writer Brian Slodysko contributed from Miami.

Analysis: Biden's viability, party's future face questions

By JULIE PACE AP Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic Party is in no mood for a coronation.

Joe Biden stepped onto the debate stage Thursday night as a front runner by default more than depth of support, and walked away with a more fragile standing atop the sprawling Democratic field. His rivals showed little deference to the former vice president and longtime senator — a Democratic elder statesman who has cast himself as the rightful heir to the legacy of Barack Obama, the president he spent eight years serving alongside.

The questions surrounding Biden's viability are a proxy for the broader debate among Democrats about the best path to defeat President Donald Trump, and about the future of a party that has been trying to reconcile for a generation the role that government should play in American life.

Can a moderate like Biden attract some of the white, working class voters who abandoned Democrats for Trump in 2016 or should the party embrace the energy of its left flank and tap a progressive, like Sens. Elizabeth Warren or Bernie Sanders, who are pressing for sweeping government intervention in the economy? Are Biden's decades of experience in Washington an antidote to Trump, who took office having never served in government, or would a fresher face, such as California Sen. Kamala Harris, help Democrats ramp up general election turnout among young voters and minorities?

This week's back-to-back debates did little to answer which course Democratic voters will take when primary contests begin early next year. But the face-offs did thrust the divisions within the party into the

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spotlight, as candidates swapped many of the niceties that have governed the primary's early months for pointed and sometimes personal attacks.

It's no surprise that Biden, who has led early polling since jumping into the race in April, found himself a frequent target. Yet the breadth of the critiques — taking aim at his age, his style of governing, his policy positions and his views on race — were at times breathtaking. Biden alternated between forceful defenses of his record and stumbling answers that suggested he wasn't fully prepared for the intensity of the attacks.

The debate's enduring exchange came when Harris challenged Biden over his past opposition to school busing and recent statements about working with segregationists. Harris, a former prosecutor who would be the first black woman elected president, wove her own personal history into her blistering critique of Biden's words and actions.

"Vice President Biden, I do not believe you are a racist, and I agree with you, when you commit yourself to the importance of finding common ground," Harris said. "But I also believe — and it's personal — it was actually hurtful to hear you talk about the reputations of two United States senators who built their reputations and career on the segregation of race in this country."

Candidates also challenged Biden's record as a dealmaker during his tenure as vice president, jabbing at both a source of pride for Biden and one of his stated qualifications for the presidency. Rep. Eric Swalwell, one of the youngest candidates in the race, repeatedly called on the 76-year-old to "pass the torch" to a new generation.

"I'm still hanging onto that torch," Biden shot back.

To some Democrats, Biden still remains a safe choice to take on Trump, a president the party views as an existential threat to American democracy. With his centrist policy positions and everyman stylings, Biden is seen as a candidate who can win back some of the working class voters who were drawn to Trump and helped tip Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin in the Republican's favor in 2016. He also has deep ties with black voters, a crucial Democratic constituency, particularly after spending eight years as Obama's No. 2.

Other Democrats argue the country and the party have changed dramatically, even in the two-and-a-half years since Obama and Biden left the White House. Liberal Democrats, including Warren and Sanders, are unabashedly embracing costly, big government programs to address economic inequality, climate change and health care costs. Sanders went so far as to concede that his "Medicare For All" program would increase taxes on middle class Americans, though he argued their health care costs would be lower.

A historic number of women and minorities are agitating to take control of an increasingly diverse party. Some candidates, including 37-year-old South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg, are openly calling for Democrats to embrace a new generation of leaders.

Democrats have tested versions of these political propositions in recent decades. Facing unpopular incumbent President George W. Bush in 2004, Democrats went with a seasoned centrist, Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, who would lose the general election. In 2016, the party establishment, and ultimately voters, rallied around Hillary Clinton — a secretary of state, senator and first lady of unmatched experience, who was nevertheless defeated by Trump.

In contrast, Obama surged to the presidency at age 47 and with less than two years in the Senate on his resume, buoyed by historic turnout among younger voters and African Americans. Another young Democrat, Bill Clinton, rode a call for generational change to the top of the 1992 primary field and two terms in the White House.

In the Trump era, where so many norms have been upended, political history may be an imperfect guide as Democrats weigh their options in the 2020 race. This week's debates may not have offered any answers, but the party's choices were never clearer.

Editor's Note: Washington Bureau Chief Julie Pace has covered the White House and politics for the AP since 2007. Follow her at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC>

Fatal shooting complicates future of Colorado charter school

By KATHLEEN FOODY Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Questions about security at a Colorado school where a shooting killed a student and wounded eight others have reshaped a battle over the charter school's future, prompting emotional reactions from students and parents who consider it a haven for kids who struggled in traditional public schools.

STEM School Highlands Ranch and local education officials have negotiated for months over a new version of the school's charter set to expire Saturday, and the May 7 attack deepened the tension amid a nationwide debate over charter schools' independence.

The Douglas County Board of Education already was scrutinizing the performance of the science- and math-focused school over concerns about financial transparency, special education and administrators' approach to parent complaints. The shooting led to new questions about security and operations.

Two teenage students have been charged in the attack and told police they knew which entrances to use because they would not be stopped, according to newly released court documents. One of the suspects also said he planned to target classmates who taunted him over his gender identity.

The shooting disrupted talks on a new multiyear charter agreement, so district officials proposed a one-year extension to allow time to reach a compromise.

Parents who recently packed a board meeting to oppose the short-term proposal described the school outside Denver as a place where kids feel challenged and supported after struggling elsewhere.

Others warned that a one-year extension would lower the school's bond rating and hurt its ability to hire teachers, attract students or introduce new programs.

"It feels like our own school board doesn't believe in us," said Heidi Elliott, a parent of two students and a member of STEM's board.

Charter schools are publicly funded but privately managed and designed to be free from heavy day-to-day oversight. Supporters say it allows charters to innovate and find new solutions to educate those who struggle in traditional public school systems.

Critics say the model has accountability and transparency problems that are ripe for abuse. It's usually during authorization of the school's contract, or charter, that those issues can be addressed in public.

Local officials with the power to authorize Colorado charter schools have a responsibility to parents and students, said Kevin Welner, director of the National Education Policy Center and a professor at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

"A charter is the legal word for contract, and someone should be able to enforce that," Welner said. "The authorizer has an important role to play and sometimes that means asking some tough questions and making some tough demands."

District board members said leaders at STEM School Highlands Ranch failed to make changes after federal and state complaints were made about students with behavioral challenges lacking appropriate accommodations, putting "other students at risk," Colorado Public Radio reported.

A letter to parents characterized several of the complaints as "test cases seeking to change federal law" and said STEM has more than the recommended number of staff for special education students.

School leaders also pointed to an award from state education officials recognizing student achievement and their performance on standardized tests, suggesting 90% are ready for college by sophomore year.

If the district and STEM can't reach an agreement before Saturday, the school could appeal to the state Board of Education, said Bill Kottenstette, executive director of the Colorado Department of Education's Schools of Choice Unit. The district and school also can sign a new contract after the old version has expired, he said.

The debate between the sides heightened after one of the two suspects told police that they used the entrance to the middle school portion of the building because they "knew they would not be checked" while carrying a guitar case and a backpack concealing four guns, according to documents unsealed this week.

School spokesman Chris Arnold would not provide information about the entrances, saying security

protocols are confidential "due to the need to keep our school and community safe."

The court records also revealed that a private security guard responding to the shooting fired twice at a sheriff's lieutenant, accidentally wounding a female student.

A special prosecutor is reviewing the guard's actions. An attorney for the guard, whose name has not been released, has declined to comment.

School leadership said STEM will have a full-time school resource officer from a sheriff's office this fall. They also plan to hire a full-time security guard.

Associated Press writer Sally Ho in Seattle contributed to this report.

Alabama woman charged in fetal death, her shooter goes free

By **BLAKE PATERSON** Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — An Alabama district attorney's office hasn't decided whether to prosecute a woman indicted for manslaughter after she lost her fetus when she was shot during a fight.

Marshae Jones was five months pregnant when 23-year-old Ebony Jemison shot her in the stomach during a December altercation over the fetus's father, authorities said.

Jemison was initially charged with manslaughter, but a Jefferson County grand jury declined to indict her after police said an investigation determined Jones started the fight, and Jemison ultimately fired in self-defense. Jones, 28, was indicted by that same grand jury Wednesday.

The indictment stated Jones did "intentionally cause the death" of "Unborn Baby Jones by initiating a fight knowing she was five months pregnant."

However, the office of District Attorney Lynneice O. Washington said there has been no decision on whether to pursue the case against Jones.

With Washington out of the country, her chief assistant D.A. Valerie Hicks Powe put out a statement expressing "sympathy for all the families involved, including Mrs. Jones, who lost her unborn child." Both prosecutors are African American women; Washington took office in 2017 as the first black female district attorney to be elected in Alabama.

While the grand jury "had its say," Powe said the office has "not yet made a determination about whether to prosecute it as a manslaughter case, reduce it to a lesser charge or not to prosecute it." She promised a thorough review and "an outcome that is most just for all the parties involved."

"Foremost, it should be stated that this is a truly tragic case, resulting in the death of an unborn child," she said. "The fact that this tragedy was 100 percent avoidable makes this case even more disheartening."

A Birmingham law firm, White Arnold & Dowd, said in a statement Friday that it is representing Jones.

"Marshae has been subjected to extraordinary violence, trauma and loss over the past year," the statement reads, adding that Jones recently lost her home to a fire and lost her job. "Now, for reasons that defy imagination, she faces an unprecedented legal action that subjects this victim of violence to further distress and harm."

The law firm also noted that Jones has no criminal history and is raising a young daughter.

Pleasant Grove police Lt. Danny Reid had called the fetus "the only true victim," having been brought unnecessarily into a fight and "dependent on its mother to try to keep it from harm."

A 2006 Alabama law allows homicide charges to be brought when a fetus or embryo is killed. The law was named "Brody's Law" on behalf of the unborn son of Brandy Parker, who was nearly nine months pregnant when she was shot and killed in 2005. Lawmakers said at the time that would allow for two murder charges when a pregnant woman is killed.

However, a section of the 2006 law also notes that the provision does not authorize prosecution of a "woman with respect to her unborn child." That wording could become an issue in the case against Jones.

Advocates for women's rights expressed outrage over Jones' arrest.

Lynn Paltrow, executive director of National Advocates for Pregnant Women, said women across the country have been prosecuted for manslaughter or murder for having an abortion or experiencing a mis-

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carriage.

She said Alabama currently leads the nation in charging women for crimes related to their pregnancies. She said hundreds have been prosecuted for running afoul of the state's "chemical endangerment of a child" statute by exposing their embryo or fetus to controlled substances.

But this is the first time she's heard of a pregnant woman being charged after getting shot.

"This takes us to a new level of inhumanity and illegality towards pregnant women," Paltrow said. "I can't think of any other circumstance where a person who themselves is a victim of a crime is treated as the criminal."

The district attorney's office said it will decide how to proceed "only after all due diligence has been performed."

Alabama is one of dozens of states that have fetal homicide laws allowing criminal charges when fetuses are killed in violent acts, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Jones' arrest also drew criticism from the Yellowhammer Fund, which raises money to help women have access to abortions.

"The state of Alabama has proven yet again that the moment a person becomes pregnant their sole responsibility is to produce a live, healthy baby and that it considers any action a pregnant person takes that might impede in that live birth to be a criminal act," said Amanda Reyes, the group's director.

Associated Press reporters Jeff Martin in Atlanta and Kim Chandler in Montgomery, Alabama, contributed to this report.

Analysis: Tell us everything (but keep it to 60 seconds)

By TED ANTHONY AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — "Each man shall make an opening statement of approximately eight minutes' duration," CBS-TV moderator Howard K. Smith intoned as John F. Kennedy and Richard M. Nixon began the first televised presidential debate on Sept. 26, 1960.

On a Thursday evening 59 years later, NBC moderator Chuck Todd had this to say to Democratic presidential hopefuls in the closing moments of a 10-candidate rhetorical scrum: "Please — for one or two words only, please."

For this particular event, the maximum time allotted for any sort of thoughtful expression was a nice round minute.

So: climate change. The economy. Taxes. Racism. Health care. How you'd stand up to China. Why you're concerned about socialism. Go!

"If I could just finish," said U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet of Colorado.

"If I may say," said U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont.

"Your time has expired," moderator Lester Holt said to author Marianne Williamson.

"Vice President Biden, 30 seconds," said moderator Rachel Maddow.

"A REAL 30 seconds?" Joe Biden shot back.

If this week's twin and Twitterly debates demonstrated one thing about America, it was this: The ever-increasing pace of society and the fragmentation of its methods of communication have sent electoral politics drifting into the choppy waters of utter absurdity.

It made for great television, sure. It had all the elements: America's most ambitious politicians scrabbling for air time. TV hosts interrupting them — sometimes plaintively, sometimes dictatorially — and trying to make sure everyone had his or her say, or at least that they got in a few pithy sentence fragments for the ages.

Maybe it was the otherwise frenetic nature of the debate that made its few moments of clarity so electric. They included U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris debating race with Biden in starkly personal terms; and South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg accepting responsibility for failing to build a more diverse police force in his city.

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Lost in the mayhem was this: America as a society is actually asking the people who would lead it to compress some of history's most complex and persnickety problems into, not even sound bites, but sound nibbles.

Americans wonder: Why has political discourse become so sharp, so monochromatic? Perhaps because we have PowerPointed our way from clarity to simplicity to only really paying attention when the sharply defined and the simplistic rule the day.

The jockeying for a few words shouted over someone else's few words grew so intense at one point Thursday night that Harris, standing at a lectern near the center of the political chorus line, was moved to turn it into a political aphorism.

"Hey guys, you know what?" she said. "America does not want to witness a food fight. They want to know how we're going to put food on their table."

In this forum, a "thank you" from a host usually meant, "Enough already." To get a word in edgewise in the tight format, men talked over women. Men talked over men. Women talked over men. (Women talking over women, not so much.)

Biden and Sanders were spotted raising their hands tentatively as Buttigieg talked. And while it took Karl Marx years to develop his theories about socialism, former Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper got a single minute to explain his concerns about it.

What produced this state of affairs? You could blame it on a sprawling slate of candidates, and you'd be partially right. It's fair to say that anytime you put 10 energetic people who want to lead the "free world" on a single stage and tell them to have at it, elbows will fly.

But it's more than that. This was but the latest iteration of political rhetoric as interstate highway billboard: Make sure all the letters and images are big enough, bold enough, colorful enough to make an impression for those driving by at 70 mph while checking their texts and reaching for their Starbucks.

Today, so much of the American media diet is delivered live and consumed in slivers of immediacy rather than larger, assembled narratives. Things arrive in a million little pieces, so each of those pieces must have a chance at being noticed, at being remembered.

But complex ideas require larger portraits, or at least collages. And when we ask the human who wants access to the nuclear button to reduce complex ideas into two or three words, or even a rushed 60 seconds with nine others trying to talk over you, that has implications — not only on the candidates themselves, but on a public grappling to understand the nuanced issues of the day.

Brevity might be the soul of wit, not to mention ratings. But pinning the future of history's most complex republic on ideas expressed in bursts of seconds and minutes is a practice that is, well, eminently debatable.

Ted Anthony, director of digital innovation for The Associated Press, writes frequently about American culture. Follow him on Twitter at @anthonyted

Supreme Court to rule on Trump bid to end 'dreamers' program

By MARK SHERMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Adding a high-stakes immigration case to its election-year agenda, the Supreme Court said Friday it will decide whether President Donald Trump can terminate an Obama-era program shielding young migrants from deportation.

The justices' order sets up legal arguments for late fall or early winter, with a decision likely by June 2020 as Trump campaigns for re-election. The president ordered an end to the program known as DACA in 2017, sparking protests and a congressional effort to salvage it.

That effort failed, but federal courts in California, New York, Virginia and Washington, D.C., have blocked him from ending it immediately. A federal judge in Texas has declared the program is illegal, but refused to order it halted.

The program — Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals — protects about 700,000 people, known as

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dreamers, who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children or came with families that overstayed visas.

The DACA protections seem certain to remain in effect at least until the high court issues its decision.

The administration had asked the court to take up and decide the appeals by the end of this month. The justices declined to do so and held on to the appeals for nearly five months with no action and no explanation. The court did nothing Friday to clear up the reasons for the long delay, although immigration experts have speculated that the court could have been waiting for other appellate rulings, legislation in Congress that would have put the program on a surer footing or additional administration action.

Since entering the White House, Trump has intermittently expressed a willingness to create a pathway to citizenship for the hundreds of thousands of immigrants who've been protected by DACA. But he's coupled it with demands to tighten legal immigration and to build his long wall along the Mexican border — conditions that Democrats have largely rejected.

With the 2020 presidential and congressional election seasons underway or rapidly approaching, it seems unlikely that either party would be willing to compromise on immigration, a touchstone for both parties' base voters. Three decades of Washington gridlock over the issue underscore how fraught it has been for lawmakers, and there's little reason to think a deal is at hand.

On the campaign trail, nearly all of the two dozen Democratic presidential candidates have pledged to work with Congress to provide a pathway to citizenship for millions of people in the country illegally — beginning with the dreamers. On the other hand, Trump sees his hardline immigration policies as a winning campaign issue that can energize his supporters.

"We are pleased the Supreme Court agreed that this issue needs resolution. We look forward to presenting our case before the court," Justice Department spokesman Alexei Woltornist said.

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra said in a conference call with reporters that the high court's ruling Thursday barring, for now, a citizenship question on the 2020 census "demonstrates that the court's not going to be fooled by the Trump administration's clearly disingenuous efforts when it comes to trying to undo and backslide on a lot of the laws and regulations that are there to protect our health and our welfare."

The Obama administration created the DACA program in 2012 to provide work permits and protection from deportation to people who, in many cases, have no memory of any home other than the United States.

The Trump administration has said it moved to end the program under the threat of a lawsuit from Texas and other states that raised the prospect of a chaotic end to DACA.

Then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions determined the program to be unlawful on the grounds that President Barack Obama did not have the authority to adopt it in the first place. Sessions cited a 2015 ruling by the federal appeals court in New Orleans that blocked a separate immigration policy implemented by Obama and the expansion of the DACA program.

Texas and other Republican-led states eventually did sue and won a partial victory in a federal court in Texas. Civil rights groups, advocates for immigrants and Democratic-led states all have sued to prevent the end of the program.

In November, a three-judge panel of the federal appeals court in San Francisco ruled that the administration decision to end DACA was arbitrary and capricious.

The appeals court noted that the federal government has a long and well-established history of using its discretion not to enforce immigration law against certain categories of people.

While the federal government might be able to end DACA for policy reasons under its own discretion, it can't do so based on Sessions' faulty belief that the program exceeds federal authority, the court held.

Associated Press writers Alan Fram, Will Weissert and Don Thompson, in Sacramento, California, contributed to this report.

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Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, June 29, the 180th day of 2019. There are 185 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 29, 1988, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Morrison v. Olson*, upheld the independent counsel law in a 7-1 decision (the sole dissenter was Justice Antonin Scalia).

On this date:

In 1520, Montezuma II, the ninth and last emperor of the Aztecs, died in Tenochtitlan (tay-nohch-TEET'-lahn) under unclear circumstances (some say he was killed by his own subjects; others, by the Spanish).

In 1613, London's original Globe Theatre, where many of Shakespeare's plays were performed, was destroyed by a fire sparked by a cannon shot during a performance of "Henry VIII."

In 1767, Britain approved the Townshend Revenue Act, which imposed import duties on glass, paint, oil, lead, paper and tea shipped to the American colonies. (Colonists bitterly protested, prompting Parliament to repeal the duties — except for tea.)

In 1776, the Virginia state constitution was adopted, and Patrick Henry was made governor.

In 1880, France annexed Tahiti, which became a French colony on December 30, 1880.

In 1927, the first trans-Pacific airplane flight was completed as U.S. Army Air Corps Lt. Lester J. Maitland and Lt. Albert F. Hegenberger arrived at Wheeler Field in Hawaii aboard the *Bird of Paradise*, an Atlantic-Fokker C-2, after flying 2,400 miles from Oakland, California, in 25 hours, 50 minutes.

In 1936, entertainer and songwriter George M. Cohan was presented with the Congressional Gold Medal by President Franklin D. Roosevelt for his contributions to building American morale during World War I.

In 1967, actress Jayne Mansfield, 34, was killed along with her boyfriend, Sam Brody, and their driver, Ronnie Harrison, when their car slammed into the rear of a tractor-trailer on a highway in Slidell, Louisiana; three children riding in the back, including Mansfield's 3-year-old daughter, Mariska Hargitay, survived. Jerusalem was re-united as Israel removed barricades separating the Old City from the Israeli sector.

In 1970, the United States ended a two-month military offensive into Cambodia.

In 1995, the space shuttle *Atlantis* and the Russian *Mir* space station linked in orbit, beginning a historic five-day voyage as a single ship. A department store in Seoul (sohl), South Korea, collapsed, killing at least 500 people. Actress Lana Turner died in Century City, California, at age 74.

In 2003, actress Katharine Hepburn died in Old Saybrook, Connecticut, at age 96.

In 2006, The Supreme Court ruled, 5-3, that President George W. Bush's plan to try Guantanamo Bay detainees in military tribunals violated U.S. and international law.

Ten years ago: U.S. combat troops withdrew from Iraqi cities, the first major step toward removing all American forces from the country by Dec. 31, 2011. Disgraced financier Bernard Madoff received a 150-year sentence for his multibillion-dollar fraud. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that white firefighters in New Haven, Connecticut, were denied promotion because of their race. Indoor tennis came to Wimbledon as the new retractable roof over Centre Court was closed after rain halted play during a fourth-round match with Amelie Mauresmo (AM'-uh-lee maw-REHS'-moh) leading top-ranked Dinara Safina (dihn-NAH'-ruh sah-FEE'-nah), 6-4, 1-4. (Safina ended up winning, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.)

Five years ago: The al-Qaida breakaway group Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, which had seized much of northeast Syria and huge tracts in neighboring Iraq, formally declared the establishment of a new Islamic state and demanded allegiance from Muslims worldwide. Grammy-winning jazz flutist and New Age music pioneer Paul Horn, 84, died in Vancouver, British Columbia.

One year ago: Canada released a list of items, including ketchup, lawn mowers and playing cards, that would be targeted with billions of dollars in retaliatory tariffs against the United States in response to the Trump administration's duties on Canadian steel and aluminum. The Annapolis Capital Gazette newspaper in Maryland kept its promise to put out the day's paper, despite the shooting deaths of five people in its newsroom a day earlier. In response to the fatal shootings at a Maryland newspaper, President Donald

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Trump said that "journalists, like all Americans, should be free from the fear of being violently attacked while doing their jobs."

Today's Birthdays: Movie producer Robert Evans is 89. Songwriter L. Russell Brown is 79. Singer-songwriter Garland Jeffreys is 76. Actor Gary Busey is 75. Comedian Richard Lewis is 72. Actor-turned-politician-turned-radio personality Fred Grandy is 71. Rock musician Ian Paice (Deep Purple) is 71. Singer Don Dokken (Dokken) is 66. Rock singer Colin Hay (Men At Work) is 66. Actress Maria Conchita Alonso is 64. Actress Kimberlin Brown (TV: "The Bold and the Beautiful") is 58. Actress Sharon Lawrence is 58. Actress Amanda Donohoe is 57. Actress Judith Hoag is 56. Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter is 56. Rhythm and blues singer Stedman Pearson (Five Star) is 55. Actress Kathleen Wilhoite is 55. Producer-writer Matthew Weiner is 54. Musician Dale Baker is 53. Actress Melora Hardin is 52. Actor Brian D'Arcy James is 51. Actress Christina Chang is 48. Rap DJ Shadow is 47. Actor Lance Barber is 46. Actor-dancer Will Kemp is 42. Actress Zuleikha Robinson is 42. Rock musician Sam Farrar is 41. Actor Luke Kirby is 41. Country musician Todd Sansom (Marshall Dyllon) is 41. Singer Nicole Scherzinger is 41. Comedian-writer Colin Jost (johst) is 37. Actress Lily Rabe is 37. Rhythm and blues singer Aundrea Fimbres is 36. NBA forward Kawhi Leonard of the Toronto Raptors is 28. Actress Camila Mendes (TV: "Riverdale") is 25.

Thought for Today: "Begin somewhere; you cannot build a reputation on what you intend to do." — James Russell Lowell, American essayist (1819-1891).

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